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MILITARY ACTIVITY AND TRANSPORTATION ROUTES, LAOS PANHANDLE

Introduction

This PIR includes military activity and transportation routes in the area of the Laos panhandle bounded by UTM coordinates XC 850450, YC 100400; YC 100150, YC 700100, YB 900800; and XB 850800. (See Map No. 1 and 2, Figure 91 and 2.)

High and low level aerial photography, was sused throughout this study

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Because much of the available photography was degraded by partial cloud cover or poor film quality, it is believed that ammerous areas remain unidentified or not observed. Good stereoscopic photography was not available for all of the military installations.

Part I consists of the newly identified barracks/storage, barracks/support, bivouac, and maneuver areas which are located east of the north/south oriented Dak Poyo-Xe Kaman Rivers. (See photo enlargements Nos. 1-27, 48, 62 and 68, Figures 3-48, 69, 84 and 90.) A total of 30 installations were observed comprising a minimum of The buildings/nuts. Numerous additional buildings/huts are suspected to be within these installations; however, the practice of military dispersal under a heavy true camppy precluded the possibility of observing additional units.

Partil consists of the motorable made, improved motorable trails, and additional heavily used trails that interconnect this transportation network. Nursecus room improvements have been observed throughout this area.

(Kha) villages as a basis for comparison between native dwellings and military installations in this area. (See photo Nos. 24, 28, 29, 32, 37, 38, 41 and 52; Figures 45, 49, 50, 58, 59, 62 and 74.) Photo No. 67, Figure 89, relates to a typical concealed vehicle park along Route 92. Of particular interest is the probable flat bed, jeep-type vehicle observed partially concealed under the trees. Because of its compact size, this particular type of vehicle can be adopted for use over motorable trails such as those observed in the Laos panhandle and adjacent border areas. Vehicles observed on roads and motorable trails within this area appear to be of the aize comparable to a jeep or light track.

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Part I - Military Activity

Military activity observed in this area of the Laos panhandle includes the following:

- 1. Possible bivouac area located approximately 3.5 nm west of the Laos/SVN border at YC 630098. The area is serviced by a network of well used trails and contains approximately 60 buildings/huts. No defenses were discernable. (See photo Nos. 1 and 1A, Figures 4 and 5.)
- 2. Probable barracks/bivouse area located at the junction of 3 motorable trails (YC 598075) approximately 5.7 mm west of the Laos/SVN border. The area contains approximately 65 buildings/huts within 3 well dispersed areas. No defenses were discernable. (See photo Nos. 2 and 2A, Figures 5 and 6.)
- 3. Possible bivouse area located approximately 4 nm west of the Lacs/SVN border at YC 629073. The area is serviced by a motorable trail and contains approximately 15 buildings/huts. No defenses were discernable. A foot bridge was observed immediately NW of the site. (See photo Nos. 3 and 3A, Figures 7 and 8.)
- #. Possible barracks/storage area located at the junction of 2 . motorable trails (YC 634060) approximately 4.5 nm west of the cos/SVN border. The area contains approximately 20 buildings/huts. No defenses were differnable. (See photo Nos. 4 and 4A, Figures 9 and 10.)
- 5. Possible parracks/support area located approximately 5.2 nm SW. of the Laos/SVN border at YC 617038. The area is serviced by a motorable trail and contains approximately 15 buildings/huts. A possible control point, comprised of 4 buildings/huts, is situated immediately south on the motorable trail. No defenses were discernable (See photo Nos. 5 and 5A, Figures 11 and 12.)
- 6. Possible bivouac/storage area located approximately, 8 nm SW of the Laos/SVN border at YB 580998. The area is serviced by a network of trails and contains approximately 15 buildings/huts. A possible control point comprising 2 buildings is located immediately east on a main trail. Defenses observed include 2 foxholes within a former village site located adjacent and north of the bivouac/storage area. (See photo Nos. 6 and 6A, Figures 13 and 14:)
- 7.8 Suspect bivouac area serviced by 2 well used trails that terminate at the site is located approximately 6.7 nm SW of the Laos/SVN border at YC 613006. Approximately 5 buildings/huts were observed with some track activity within the area. No defenses were discernable. (See photo No. 7. Figure 15.)

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8. Possible headquarters/support area located approximately 8.7 nm SW of the Laos/SVN border at YB 593980. The area contains approximately 20 buildings/huts. Two probable training/maneuver areas consisting of numerous trenching, foxholes and automatic weapons positions are located to the NE and SW. Two control points comprising numerous buildings/huts are located NE and south. Defensive positions consisting of foxholes and trenching have been observed NW, east and foot bridge is noted across the Dak Poyo River at YB 585975. An adjacent pontoon bridge was first observed Tracking activity has increased were observed in only one area. The nature of this installation, its geographic location, and defensive positions indicate its importance (See photo Nos. 8, 8A, 8B, 8C, and 8D, Figures 16-20.)

- 9. Possible bivouac area located approximately 11.7 nm SW of the Laos/SVN border at YB 543974. The area is serviced by a motorable trail and contains approximately 20 buildings/huts. No defenses were discernable. (See photo Nos. 9 and 9A, Figures 21 and 22.)
- 10. Probable barracks/storage area located approximately 8 nm SW of the Laos/SVN border at YB 631945. The area is serviced by a motorable trail and contains approximately 20 buildings/huts. Extensive tracking activity and 2 automatic weapons positions were observed within the area. (See photo No. 10, Figure 23.)
- 11. Probable barracks/storage area located approximately 6.5 hm west of the Laos/SVN border at YB 653890. The area is serviced by a motorable trail and contains approximately 100 buildings/huts. Numerous tracking activity observed within the area. No defenses were discernable. (See photo Nos. 11 and 11A, Figures 24 and 25.)
- 12. Probable barracks/storage area located approximately 6.8 nm SW of the Laos/SVN border at YB 653873. The area is serviced by a motorable trail and contains approximately 70 buildings/huts. Extensive track activity is observed in the area. No defenses were discernable. (See photo Nos. 12 and 12A, Figures 26 and 27.)
- 13. Possible storage area located approximately 3.3 nm west of the Laos/SVN border at YB 697813. The area is serviced by a motorable trail and contains approximately 30 buildings/huts. No defenses were discernable. (See photo Nos. 13 and 13A, Figures 28 and 29.)
- 14. Probable barracks/storage area located approximately 1.8 mm west of the Laos/SVN border at YB 734834. The area is serviced by 3 motorable roads and contains approximately 50 buildings/huts. Extensive track activity is observed within the area. No defenses were discernable. (See photo Nos. 14 and 14A, Figures 30 and 31.)

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15. Possible bivouad area located approximately 3.8 nm west of the Laos/SVN border at YB 720862. The area is serviced by a motorable trail and contains approximately 10 buildings/huts. No defenses were discernable. (See photo No. 15, Figure 32.)

- 16. Probable barracks/storage area located approximately 4.3 nm west of the Laos/SVN border at YB 694895. The area is serviced by a network of trails and contains approximately 20 buildings/huts. No defenses were discernable. (See photo No. 16, Figure 33.)
- 17. Probable barracks/storage area located approximately 5.4 nm west of the Laos/SVN border at YB 675908. The area is serviced by a well used trail and contains approximately 15 buildings/huts. No defenses were discernable. (See photo No. 17, Figure 34.)
- 18. Probable barracks/speport area located approximately 3.1 nm west of the Laos/SVN border at YB 705941. The area is serviced by a motorable trail and contains approximately 10 buildings/huts. No defenses were discernable. (See photo Nos ale and 18A, Figures 35 and 36.)
- 19. Probable barrack/storage area located approximately 4.5 nm SW of the Laos/SVN border at YB 675987. The trea is serviced by a network of trails and contains approximately 40 tuildings/huts. Defenses include a series of foxholes located NE, east, SW and west of area. (See photo Nos. 19 and 19A, Figures 37 and 38.).
- of the Laos/SVN border at YC 706010. The area is serviced by a motorable trail and contains approximately 15 buildings/huts. Defenses include 6 automatic weapons positions and numerous foxholes. Extensive tracking activity has been observed within the area. (See photo Nos. 20, 20A, and 20B, Figures 39-41.)
- 21. Probable barracks/support area located approximately 25 nm of the Laos/SVN border at YB 730890. The area is serviced by a network of motorable roads and contains approximately 20 buildings/huts. No defenses were discernable. (See photo No. 21, Figure 42.)
- 22. Propable barracks/storage area located approximately 0.5 nm NW of the Laos/SVN border at YB 760945. The area is serviced by a motorable trail and contains approximately 20 buildings/huts. No defenses were discernable. (See photo No. 22, Figure 42.)
- 23. Probable staging area (approximately 3,000 by 2,000 feet) located approximately 5.4 nm SW of the Laos/SVN border at YC \$5010.

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The area is service by a motorable road and contains numerous foxholes and 9 automatic weapons positions. Extensive vehicular tracking was cobserved in the area. (See photo No. 23, Figure 44.)

- 24. Possible storage area located approximately 0.6 nm east of the Dak Poyo River at YB 615950. The area is serviced by a motorable trail and contains approximately 15 buildings/huts. Defense positions include numerous foxholes. Extensive vehicular tracking activity was observed in the area. (See photo No. 24, Figure 45.)
- 25: 'Probable bivouac/storage area located approximately 0.7 nm' west of the Xe Kaman River at YB 620877. The area is serviced by an improved motorable road and contains approximately 30 buildings/huts. Extensive tracking activity and recent road improvements have been observed in the area. No defenses were discernable. (See photo No. 25, Figure 46.)
- 26. Probable barracks/storage area located approximately 3. 7 nm NW of the Laos/SVN border at YB 708970. The area is serviced by a motorable trail and contains approximately 40 buildings/huts. Extensive vehicular tracking activity was observed. No defenses were discernable. (See photo No. 26, Figure 47.)
- 27. Probable barracks/storage area located approximately 0.8 nm east of the Xe Kaman liver at YB 651907. Area contains approximately 10 buildings/huts. Extensive vehicular tracking activity and recent road improvements have been observed. No defenses were discernable. (See photo No. 27, Figure 48.)

Three other areas of probable military activity were noted outside and west of the primary area of interest. They are believed to be significant enough to be included in this study. They are as follows:

- 1. Probable rest/refuel stop located immediately east of a motorable road approximately 9 nm NW of Chavane at YC 175031. Approximately 20 buildings/huts were observed in the area. No defenses were discernable. (See photo No. 48, Figure 69.)
- 2. Probable bivouac/storage area located NE and SW of a motorable road approximately 12 nm west of Chavane at YB 001912. Approximately 10 buildings/huts observed in area. A fortified village comprising 15 buildings/huts, trenching, and foxholes was observed immediately to the SW. Extensive track activity was observed throughout the area. (See photo No. 62, Figure 84.)

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3. Suspect bivouac area located immediately north of a motorable road approximately 10 nm NW of Chavane at YC 095106. Approximately 20 buildings/Huts observed in the area. No defenses were discernable. (See photo No. 68, Figure 90.)

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Part II - Transporation Routes

Significant information concerning the roads and trails in the area of interest is as follows:

- 1. An extensive network of improved trails extends east and SE from Route 92 at XC 900440 to YC 003100 where they merge into one motorable trail suitable for light vehicular traffic. This motorable trail then extends south to YC 039095 where it joins with an improved single lane, loose surfaced, dry weather road. From this junction the road reads east and SE to the Lam/Tiam/Tong He area (YB 190984), then east to Dak Don (YB 396993) via Chavane (YB 220978), Ding (YB 286953) Trieng (YB 313952), Chanum (YB 361968) and Dak Ray (YB 370975). Allarge road bridge was observed at (YC 150063). Extensive wehicular track activity was observed in the Chanum/Dak Ray/Dak Don area. (See photo Nos. 42-48, 49-53, 66 and 68, Figures 63-69, 71-75, 88 and 90.)
- 2. An improved trail beginning at the southern terminus of the extension of Route 92 was observed heading south along the west side of the Se Kong River and terminating at Ban Phone (XC 823040). (See photo No. 58, Figure 80.)
- 3. From the east bank of the Se Kong River at Ban Dan (XB 885875), a dry weather road heads east along the Hovay Vi River and terminates at the Tiam road junction (YB 190984). (See photo Nos. 60-65, Figures 82-87.)
- 4. Two roads proceed NE from Route 16 from the Ban Phone area (XC 823040) to the Se Kong River at XC 880059 and XC 873132. From the fording point at XC 873132, a network of improved trails extends ESE and merge into a road motorable for light vehicular traffic at XC 952110. This road then runs east to the road junction at YC 031100. (See photo Nos. 57-59, Figures 79-81.
- 5. From a possible ferry crossing at XC 880059 an improved trail extends ENE for approximately 12 nm to the road junction at YC 038095. Various sections of this trail appear to be capable of supporting light vehicular traffic. (See photo No. 56, Figure 78.)
- 6. An extensive network of heavily used trails extends SE from a suspect transloading area on the Se Kong River at XC 920215 to XC 952110 where they merge with additional trails. (See photo Nos. 54 and 55, Figures 76 and 77.)

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7. East of Dak Don (YB 412993) the road divides into two improved trails capable of supporting light vehicular traffic extending ENE for approximately 14 nm to the Dak Poyo and Xe Kaman Rivers. Numerous improvements on these trails were observed from YC 530028 to YC 547037; YB 567964 to YC 580945 and YB 593920 to YB 625860 and YC 648909 to YB 651900. (See photo Nos. 9, 25, 29, 32, 33, 36, 37, 38, 40 and 41, figures 21, 46, 50, 53, 54, 57, 58, 59, 61 and 62.)

8. The entire area east of the Dak Poyo-Xe Kaman Rivers bounded by UTM coordinates YC 520110, YC 800110, YB 600800 and YB 520800 contains numerous improved motorable trails and track activity. (See photo Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 10-24, 26-28, 30, 31, 35 and 39, Figures 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 15, 16, 23-45, 47-49, 51, 52, 56 and 60.)

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Part III - Comparison of Native Villages and Military Installations

A comparison between the local native (Kha) villages and the military installations reveals the villages to contain the following:

- (depending on terrain) with a large communal hut located in the center of the village. The structure and style of the village buildings/huts is consistantly similar throughout the area of this study.
- 2. Numerous fenced enclosures for animals and/or garden crops are observed in and around the perimeter of the village.
- 3. The area within the perimeter of a village site is generally bare of vegetation and the lateritic soil reflects in a very light tone on aerial photography.

Military installations appear to contain the following:

- Pattern and conformity of most installations reflects the type of terrain and concealment.
- 2. Track activity observed within these areas is kept to a minimum and tree cover and other vegetation is preserved. Open areas normally associated with the native villages is nonexistent.
- 3. An absence of animal enclosures except where abandoned villages are being utilized as troop billets.
- 4. A constant effort to disperse and conceal buildings and huts which are not similar to the standard native structures within the study area.
- 5. Roads/trails parallel the installations rather than dissect them as commonly found with the village sites.
- 6. Numerous vehicle tracks, foxholes, trench systems and automatic veapons positions are observed within the perimeter of many installations.

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MAPS OR CHARTS

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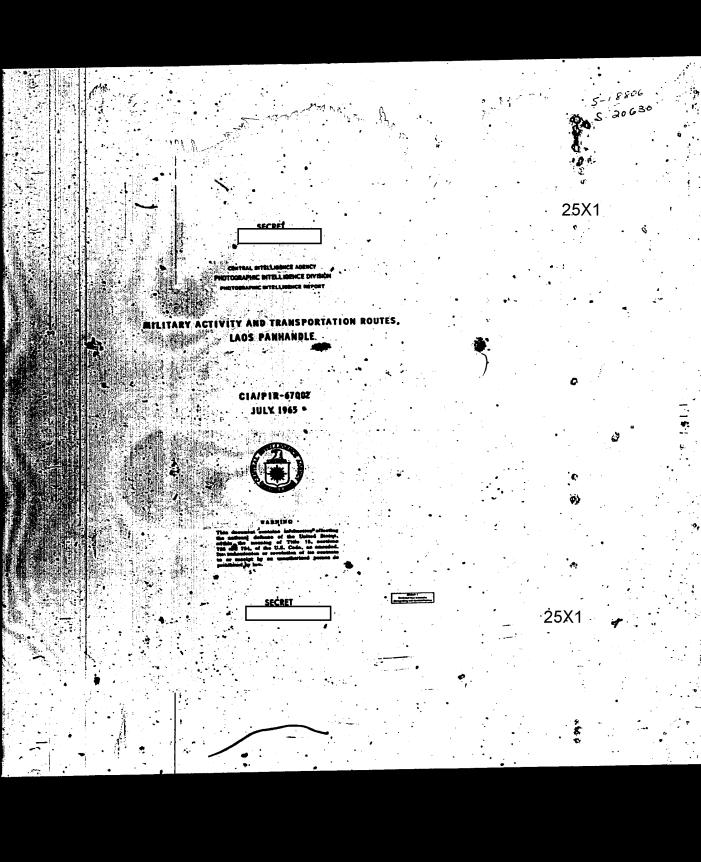
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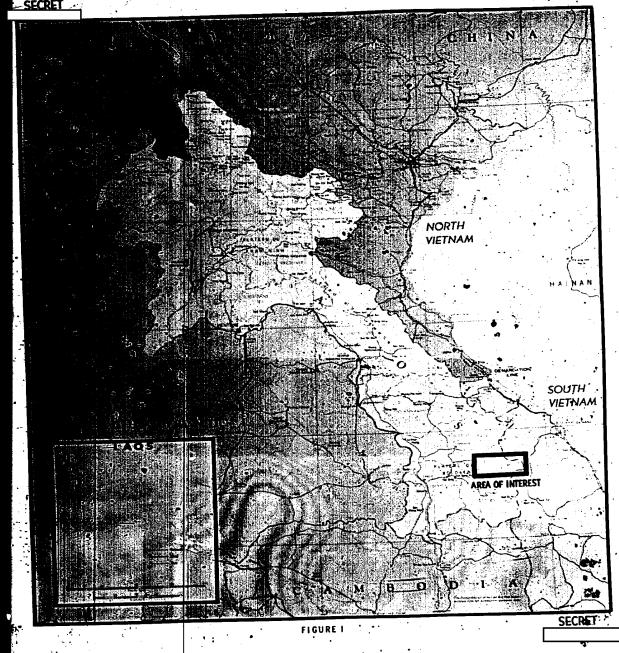
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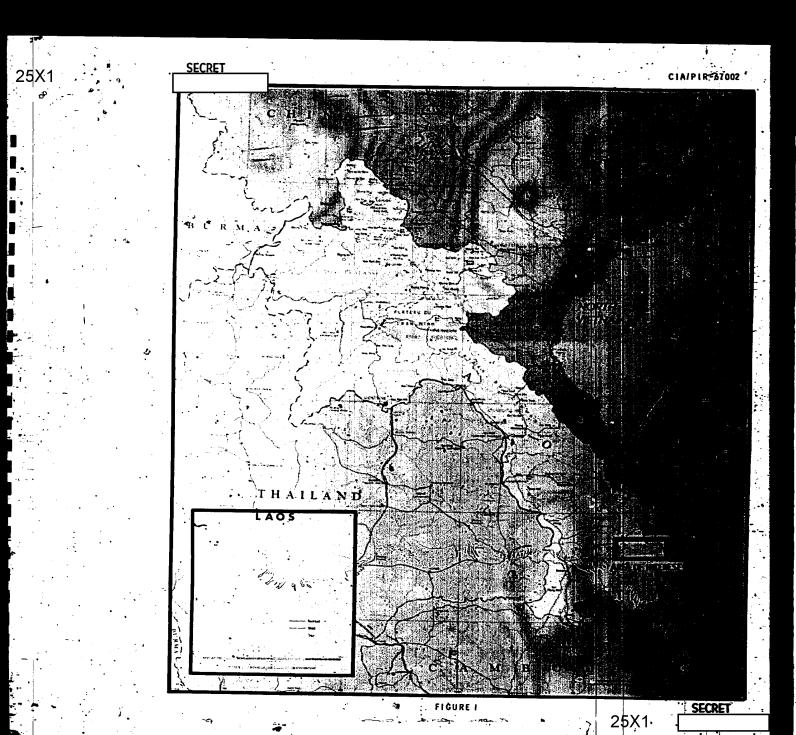
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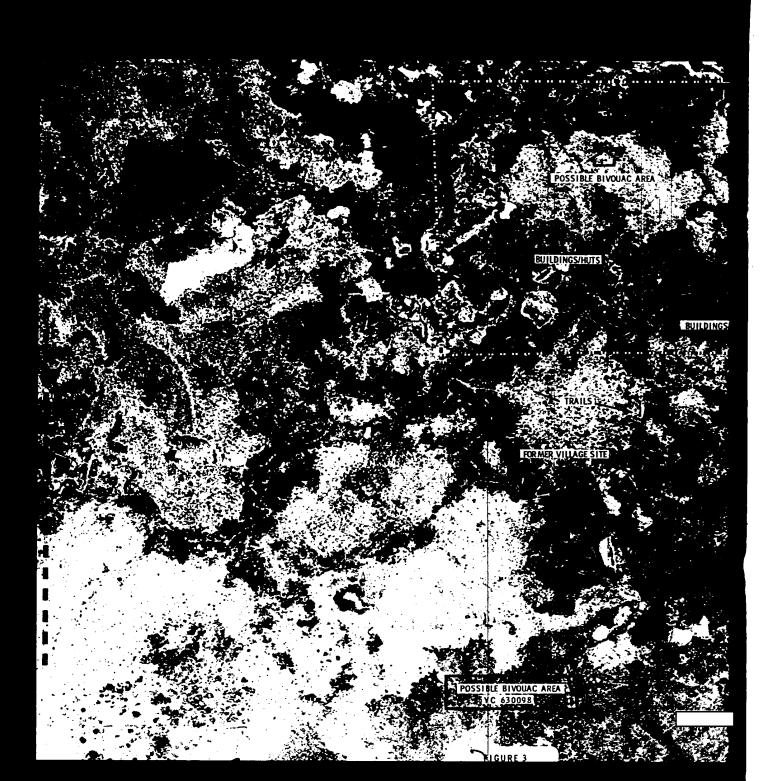


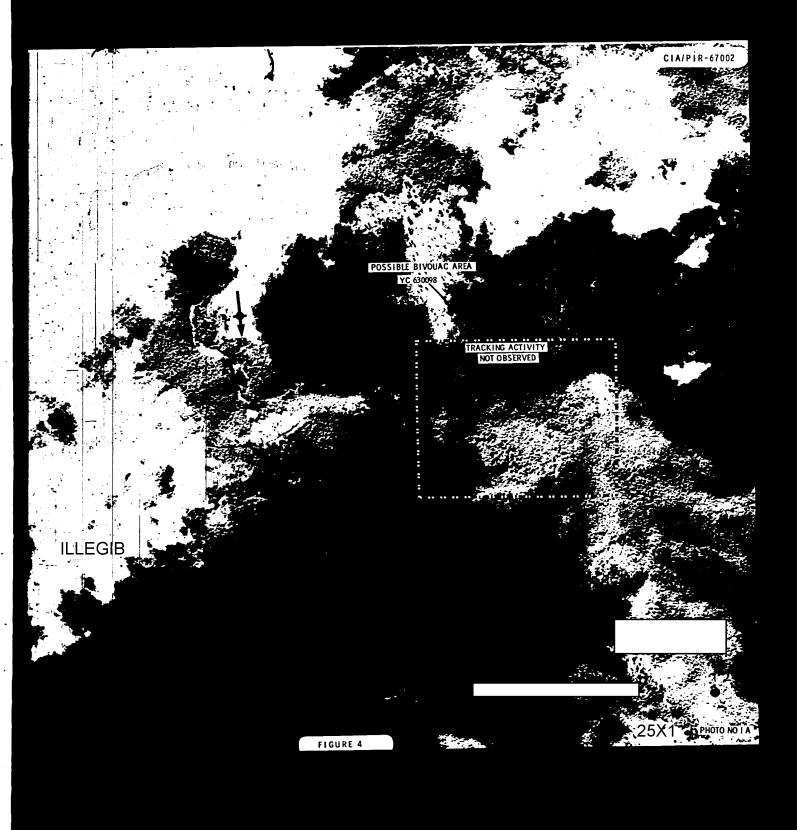
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PHOTO NO. 67 GIVES LOCATION OF VEHICLE PERK ON RT. 92 AT X87564285	SECRET
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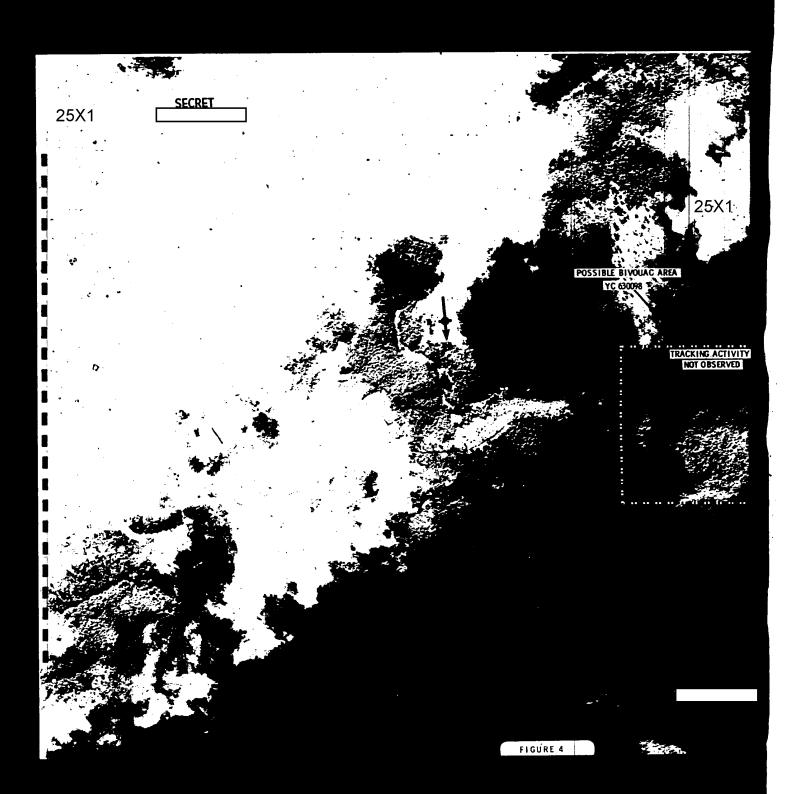
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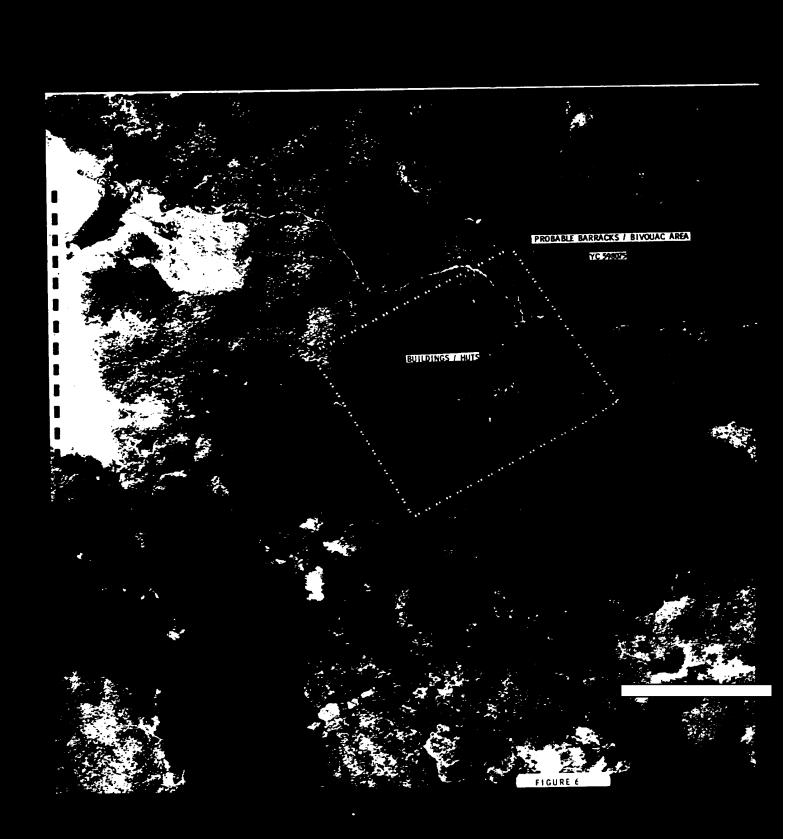


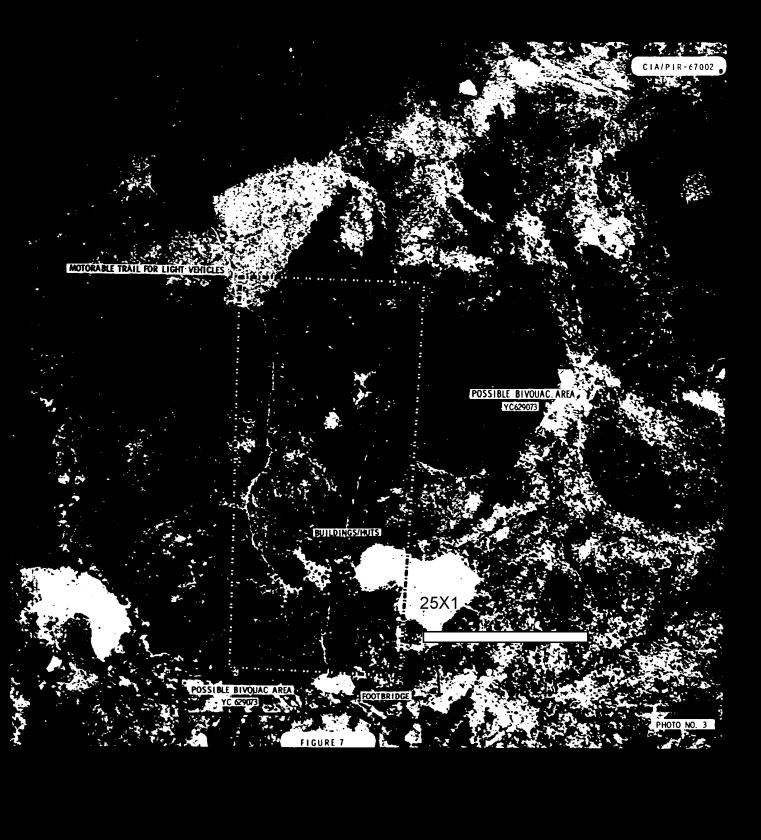


PROBABLE BARRACKS / BIYOUAC AREA MOTORABLE TRAIL FOR LIGHT VEHICLES

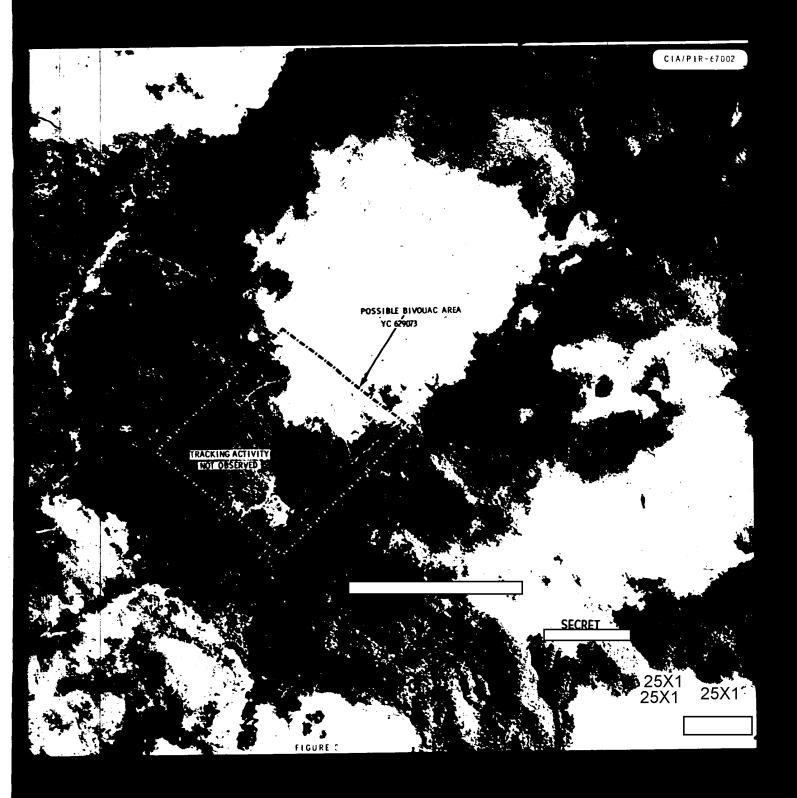
FIGURE 5

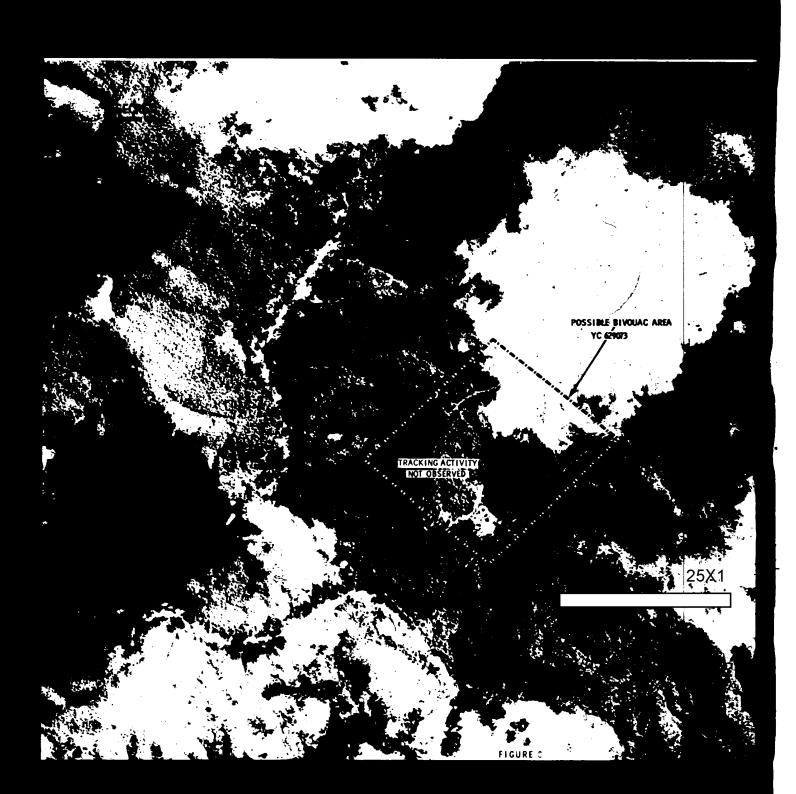
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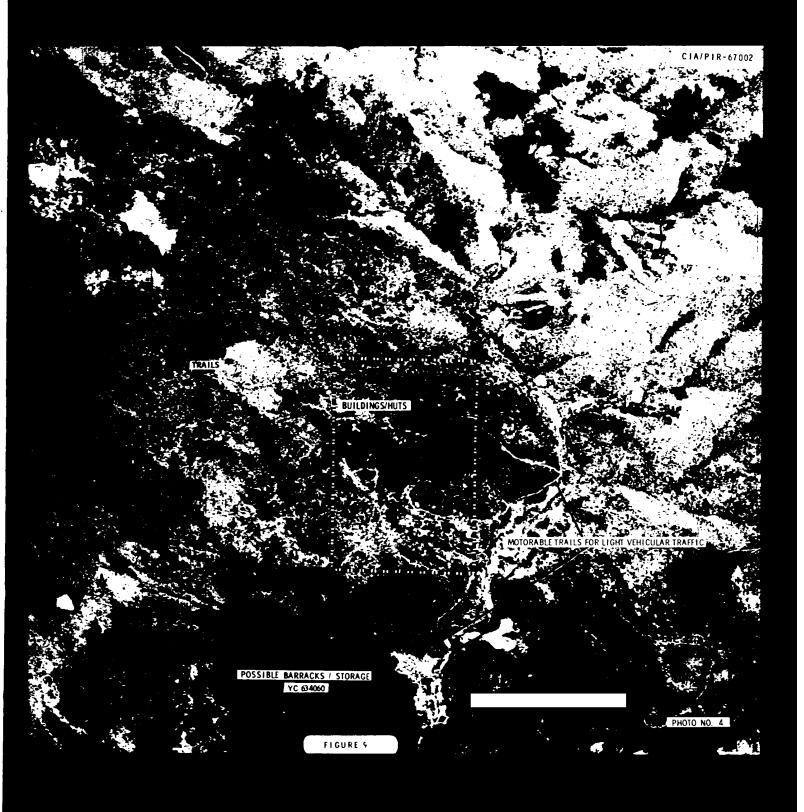


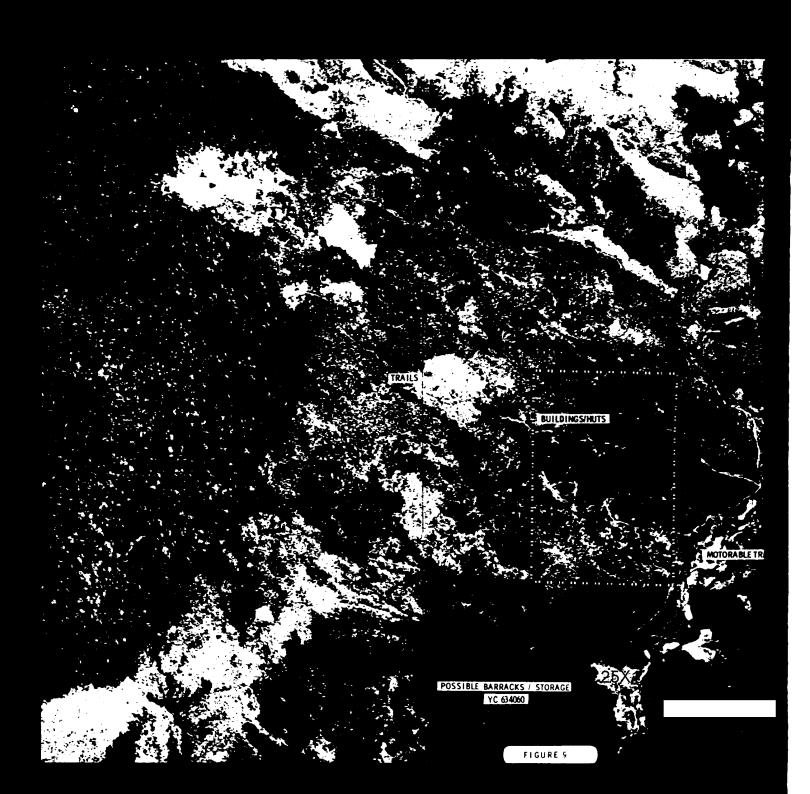


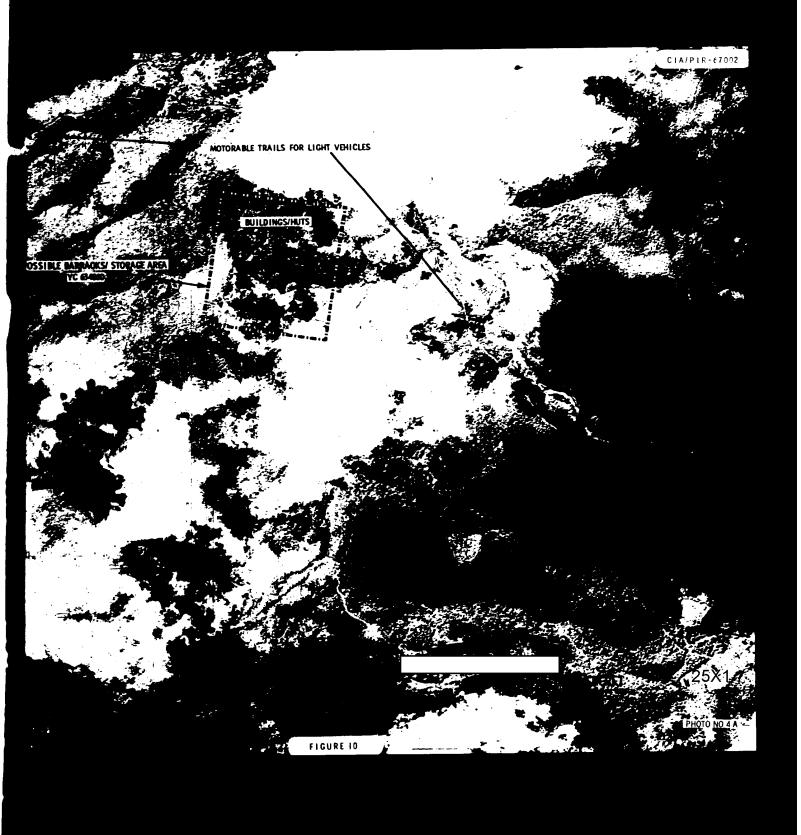
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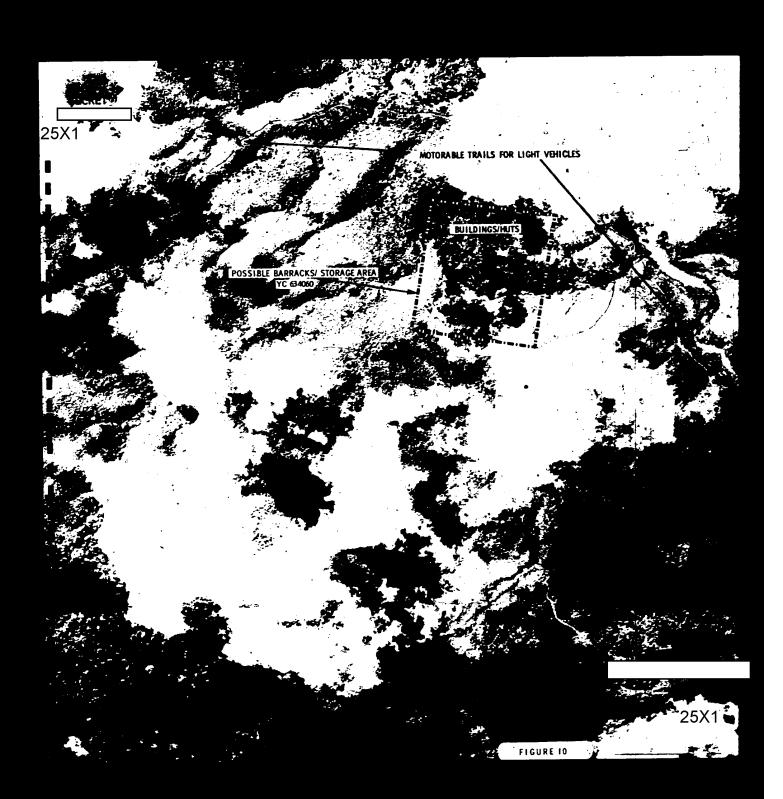


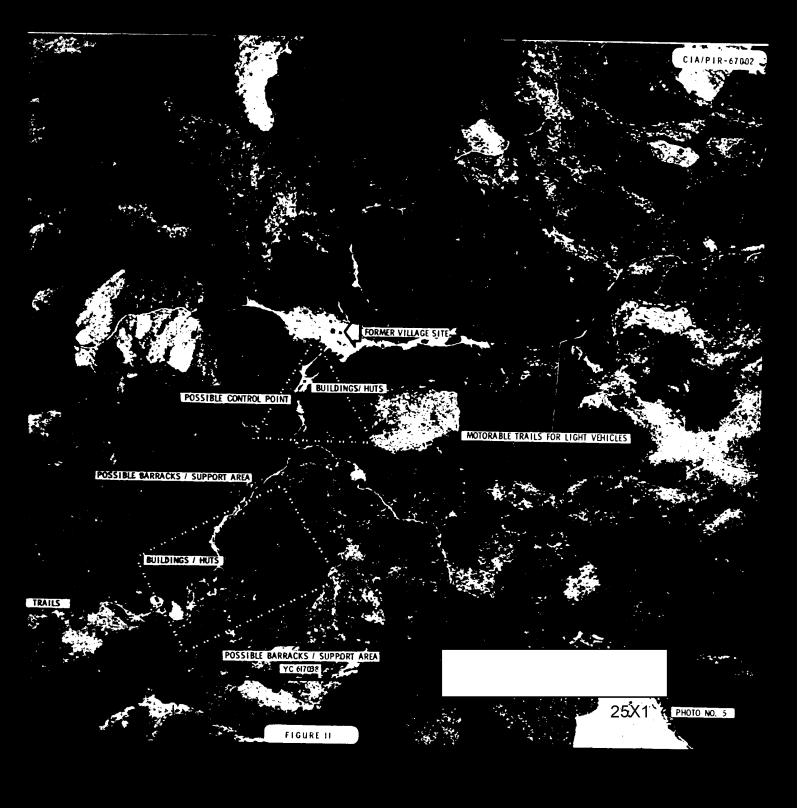


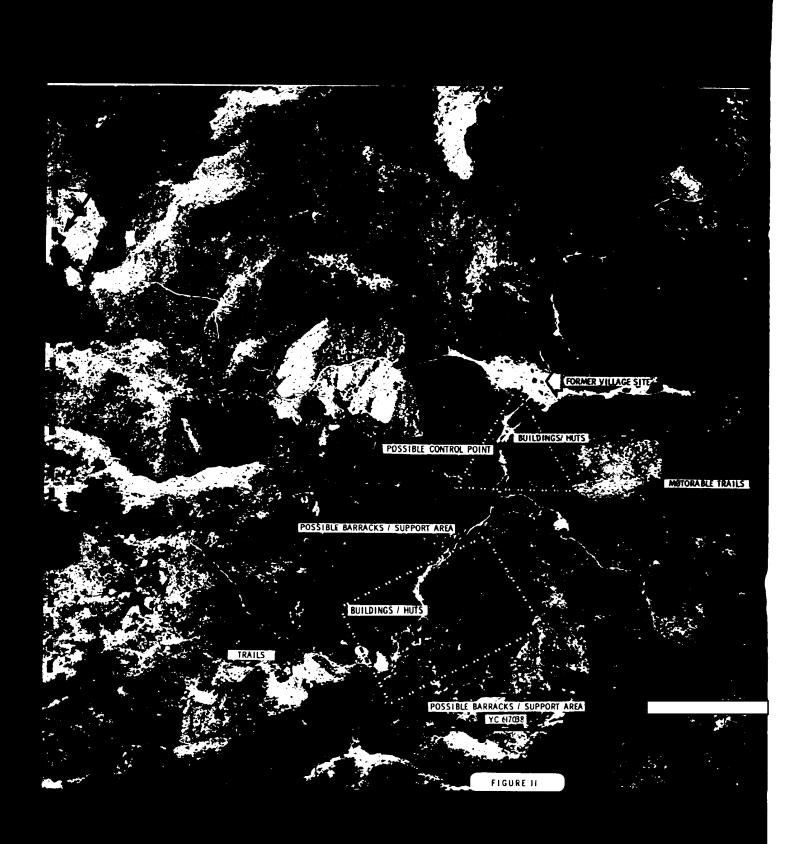


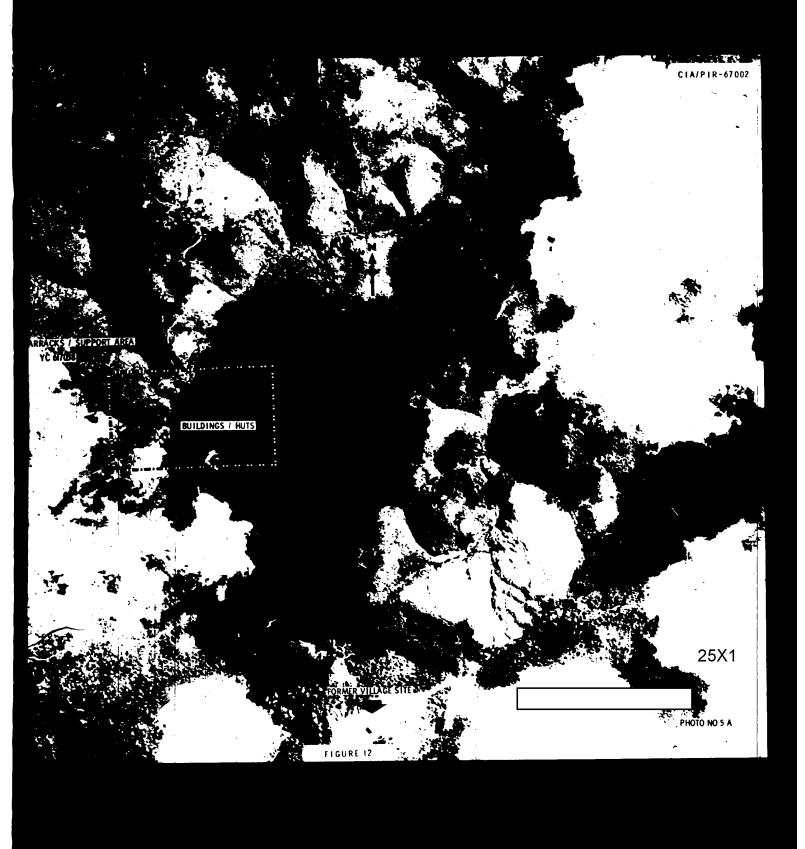
















FOXHOLES: FORMER VILLAGE SITE

BUILDINGS / HUTS

POSSIBLE BIVOUAC / STORAGE AREA

POSSIBLE BIVOUAC / STORAGE AREA
VB 58078

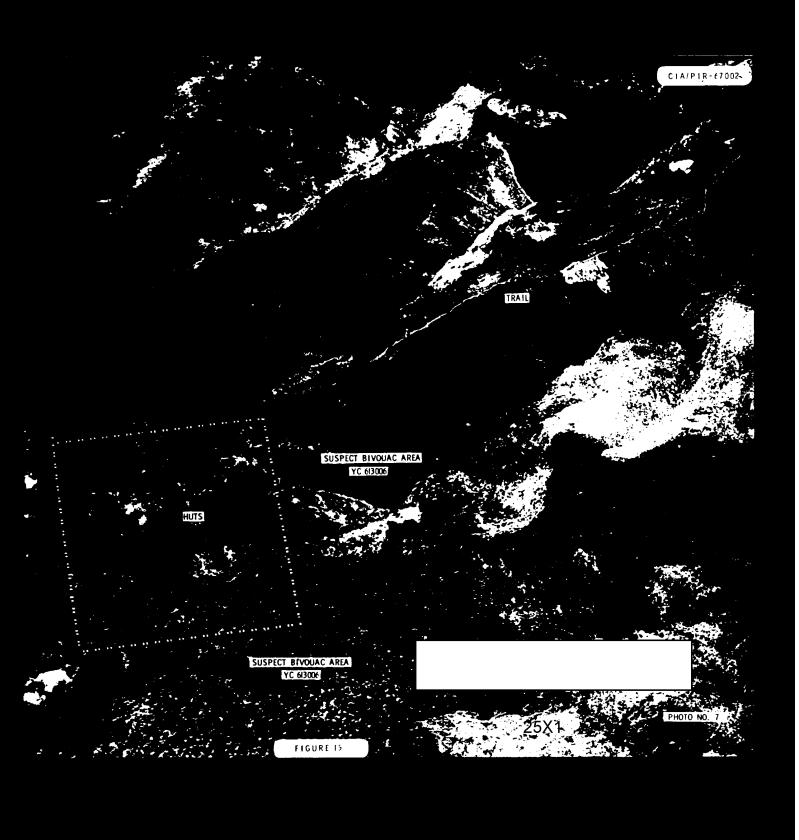
FIGURE 13

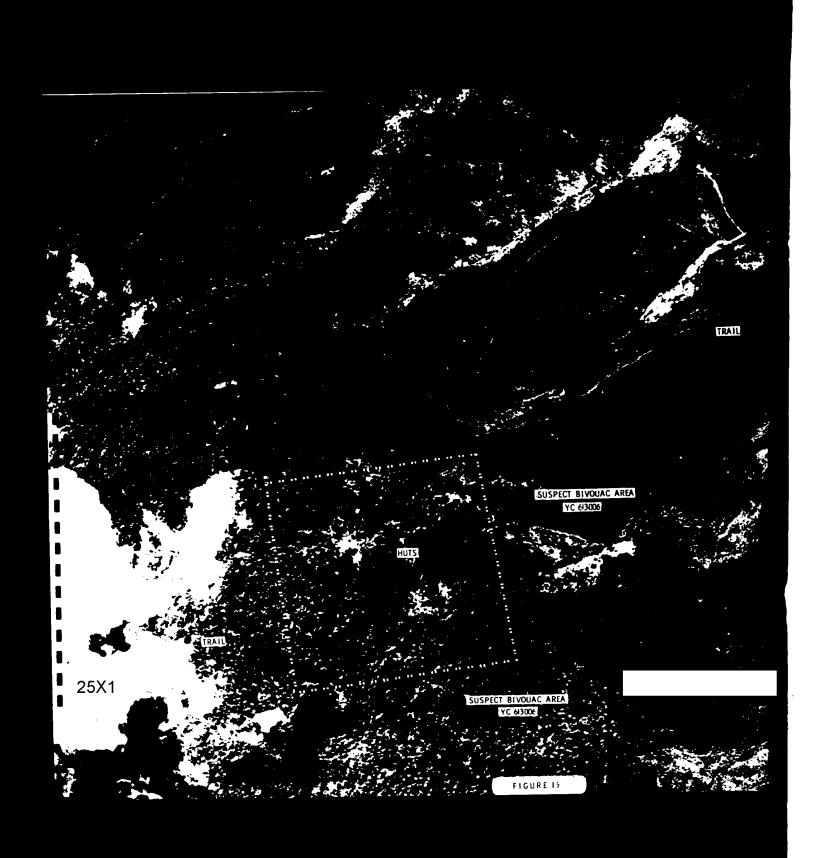


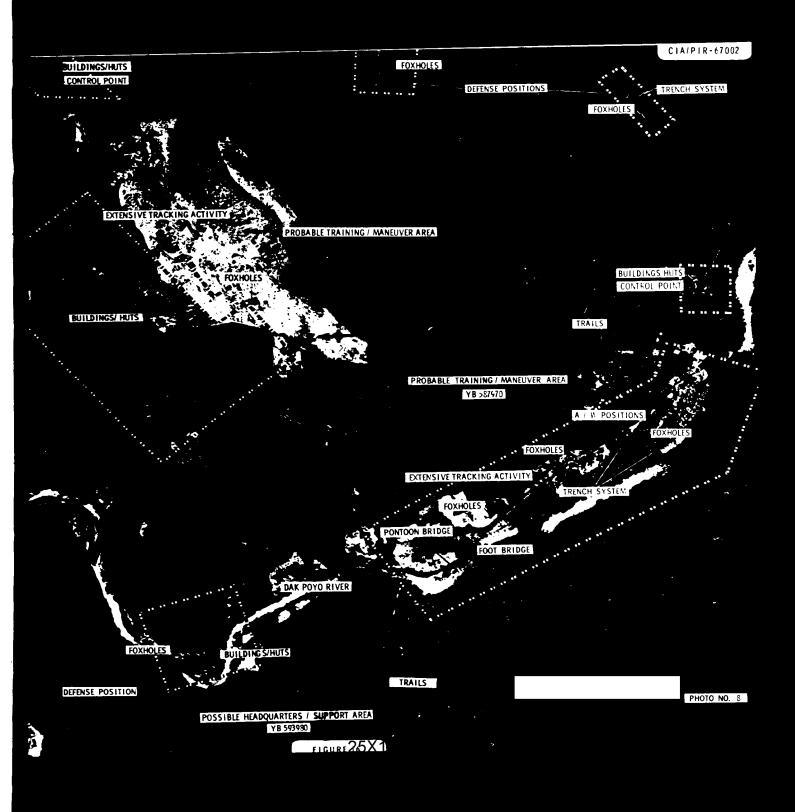
POSSIBLE BIVOUAC / STORAGE AREA

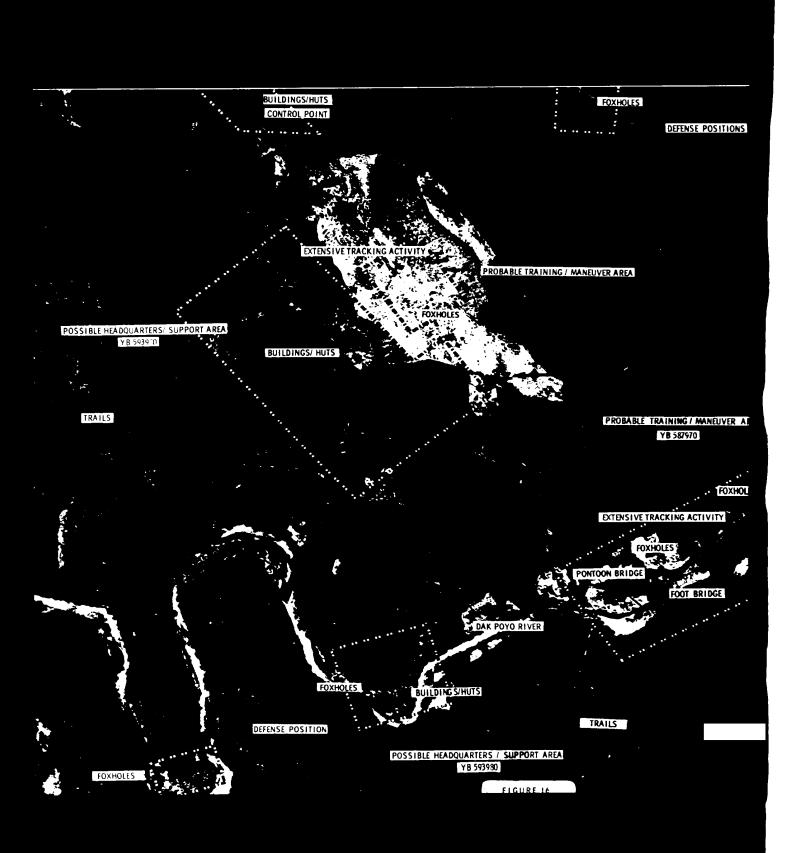
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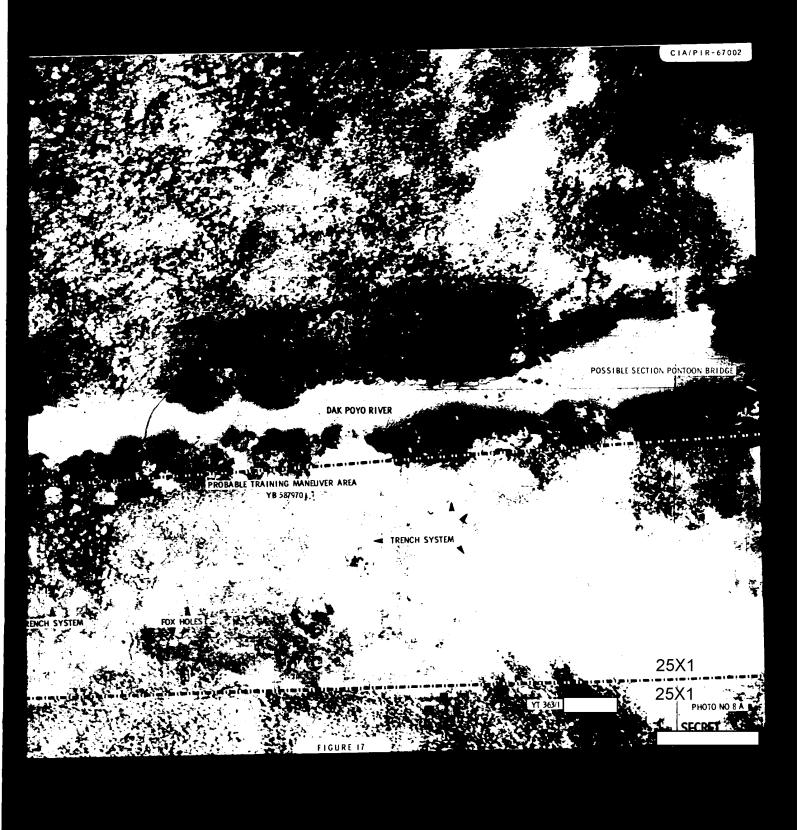
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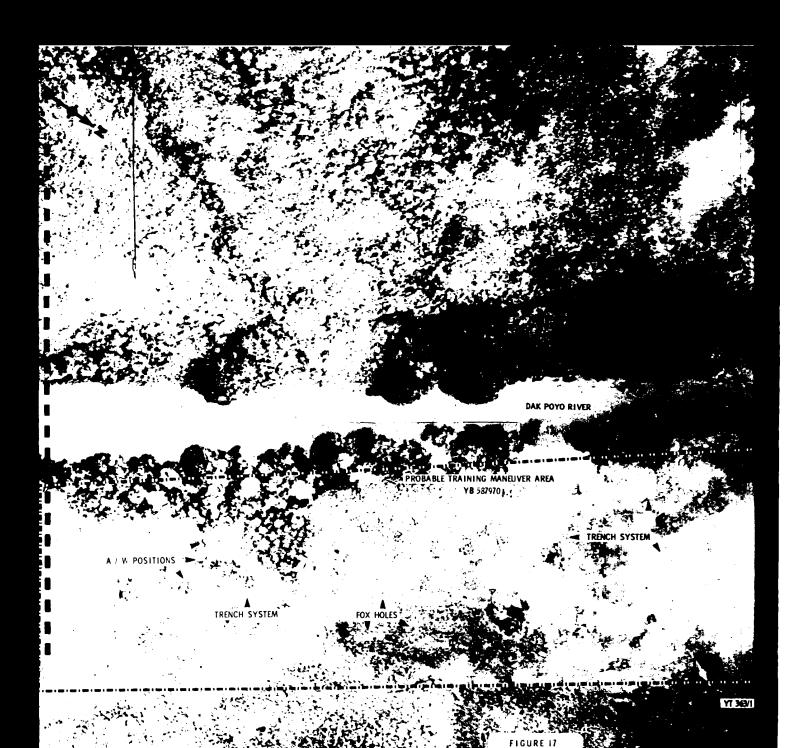




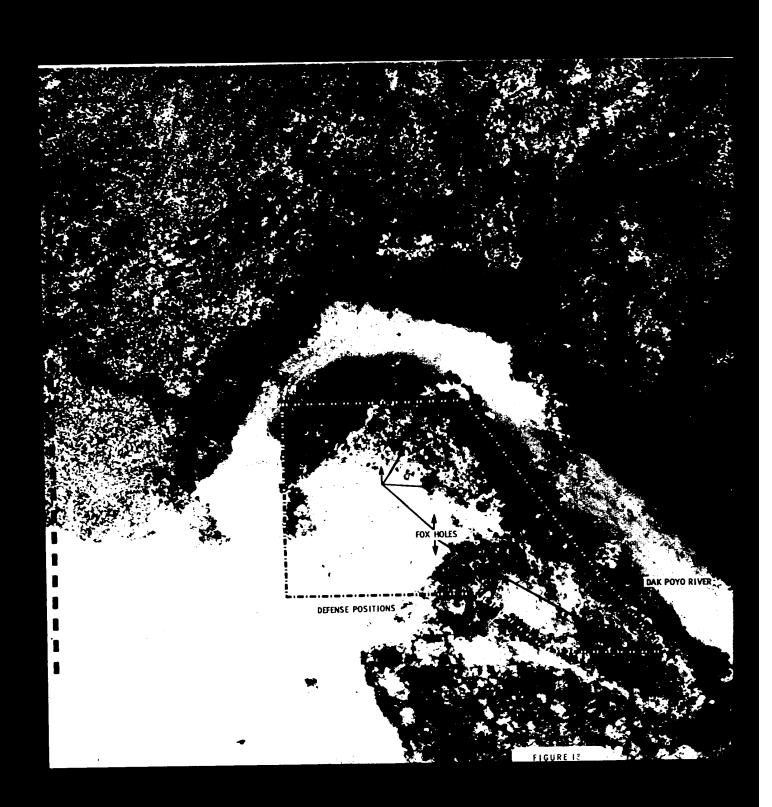


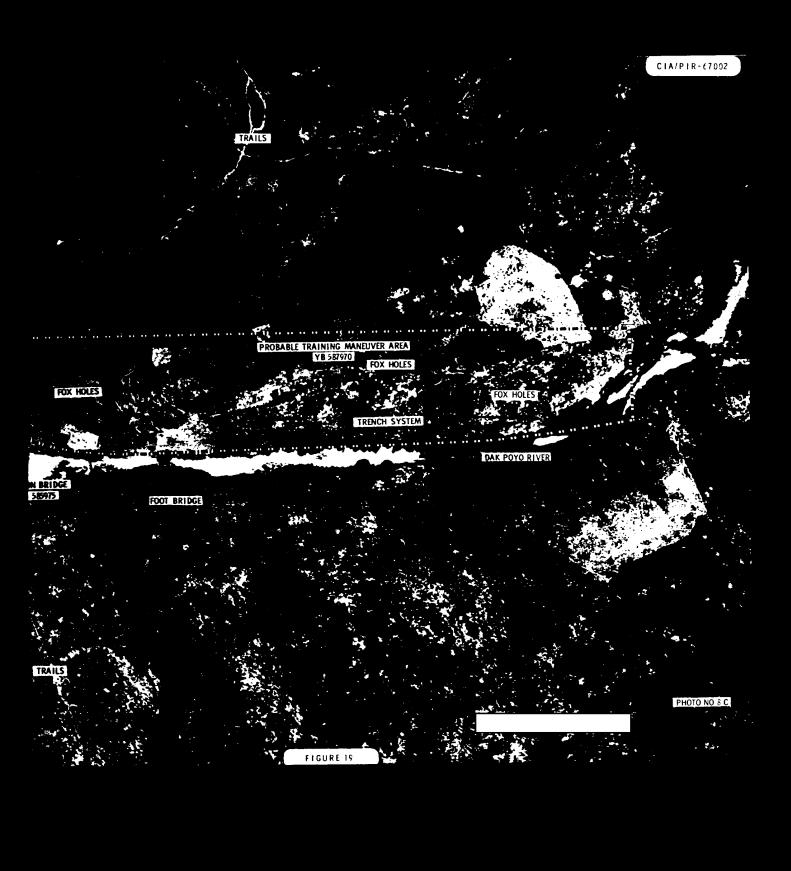


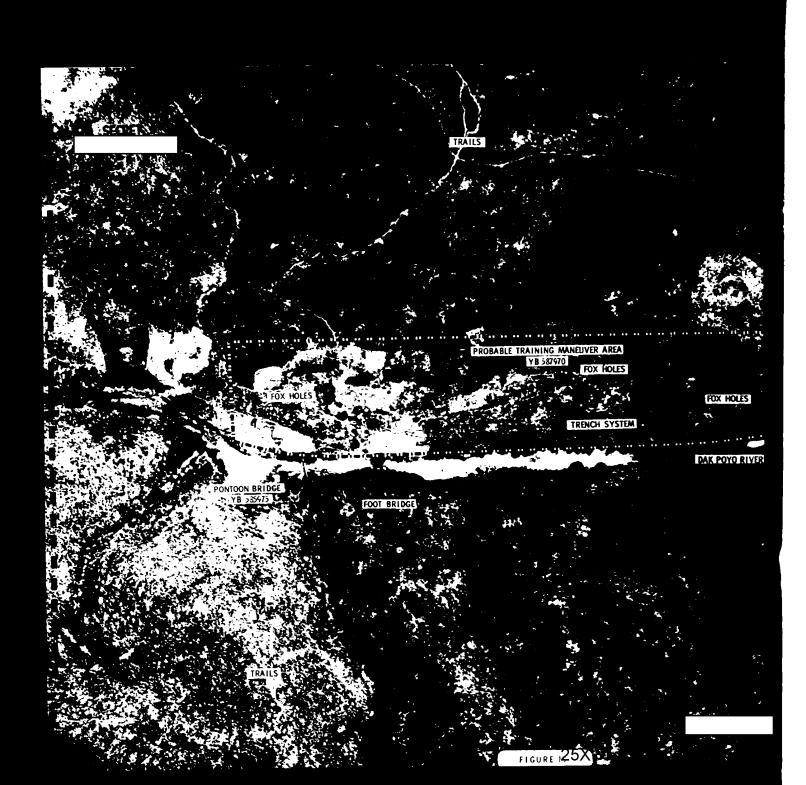




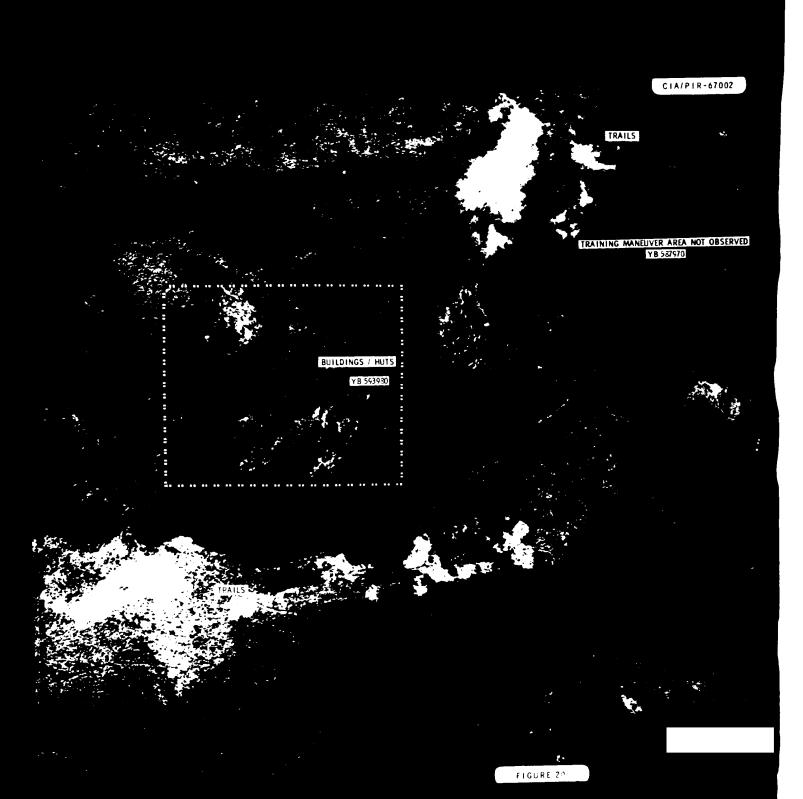


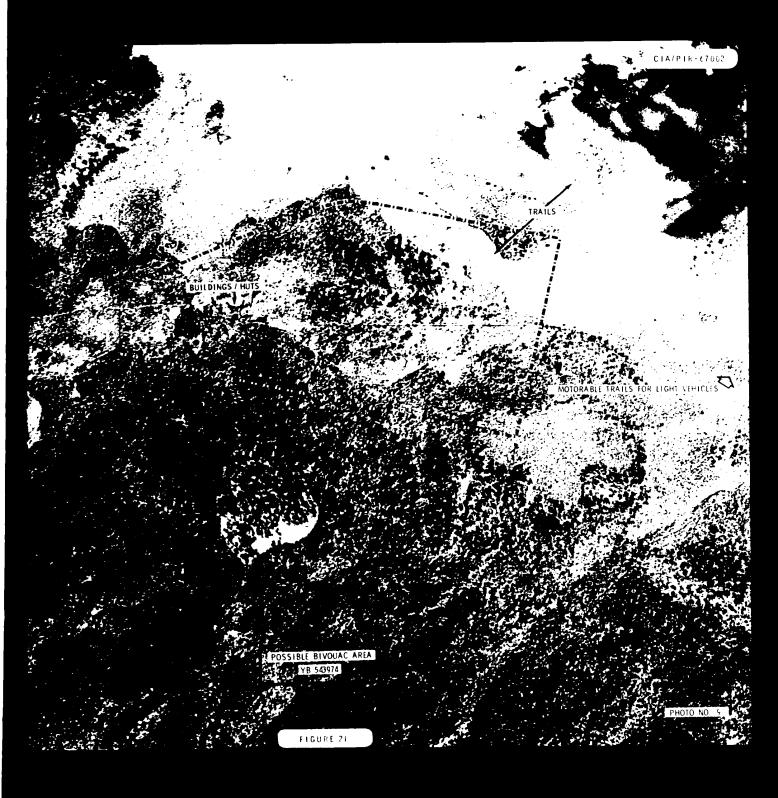


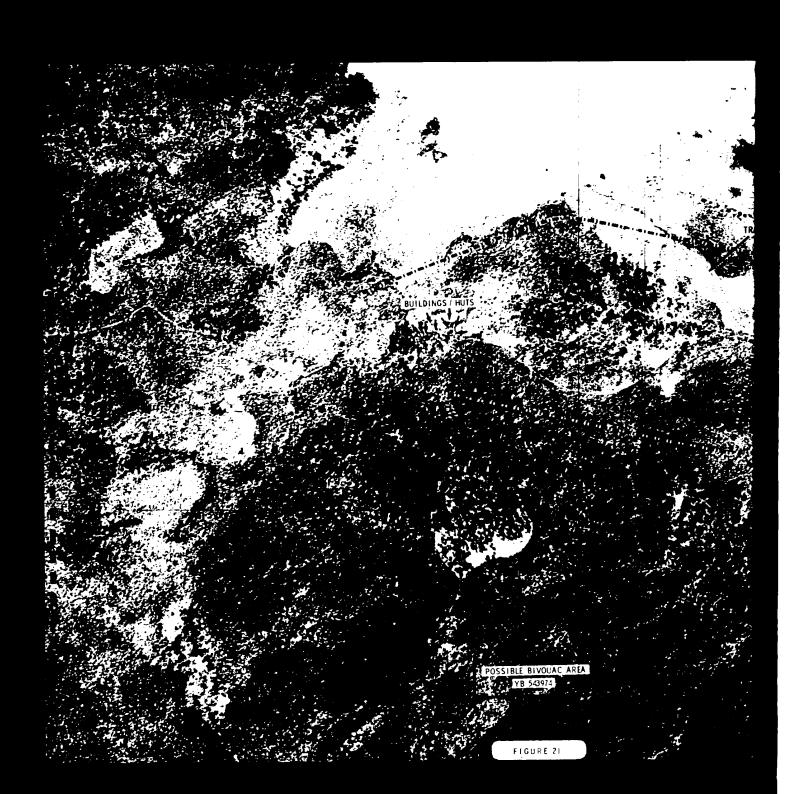




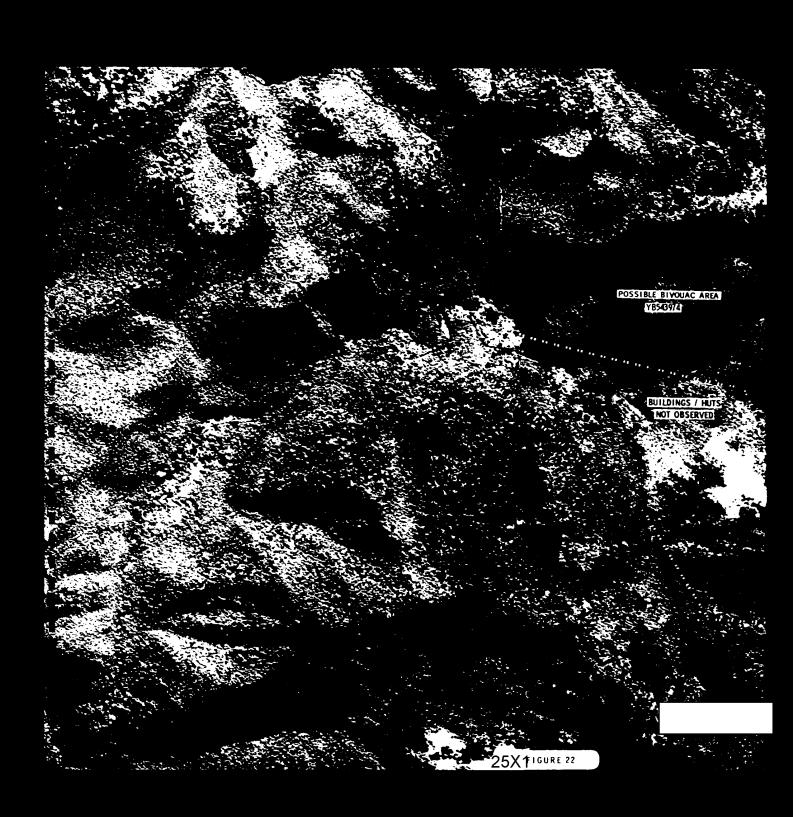
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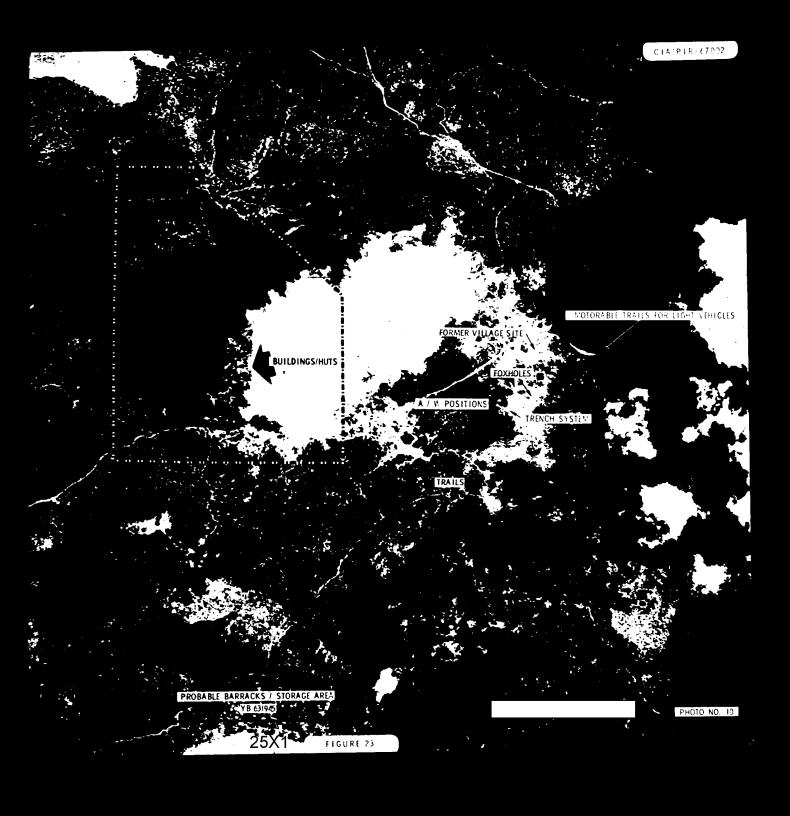


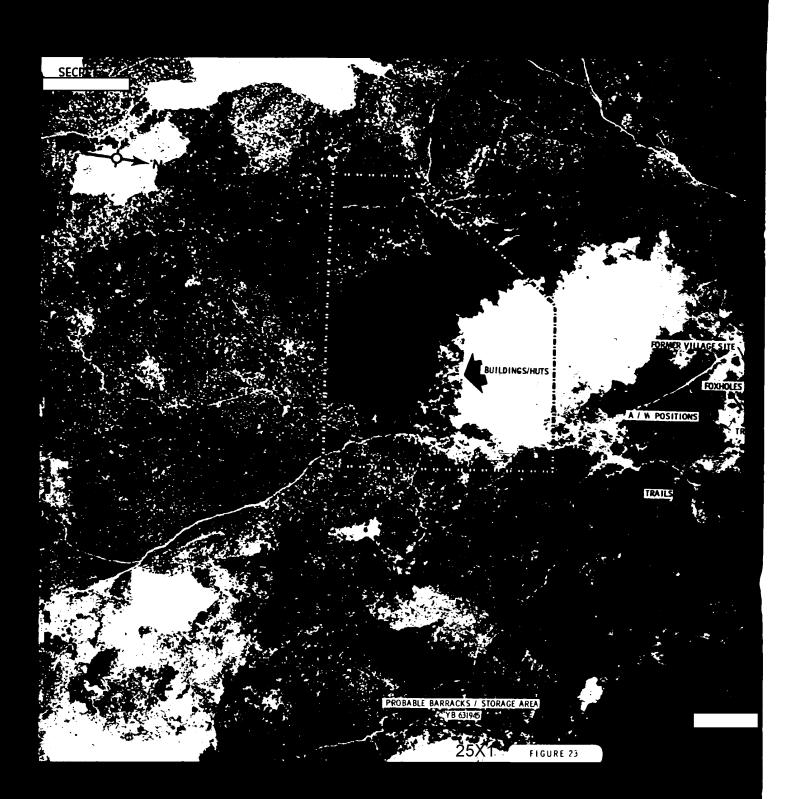


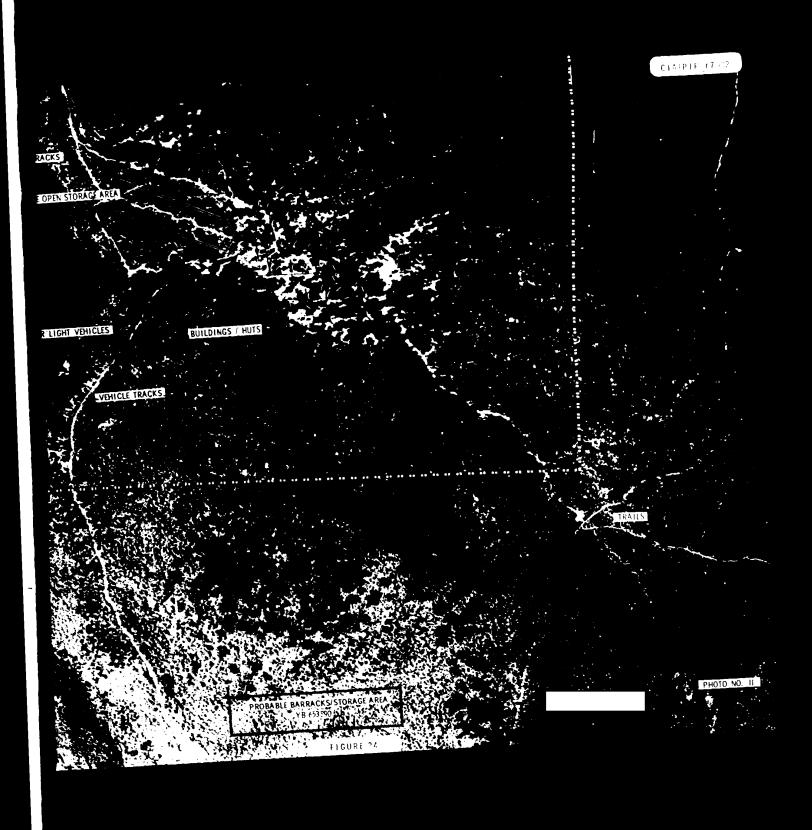












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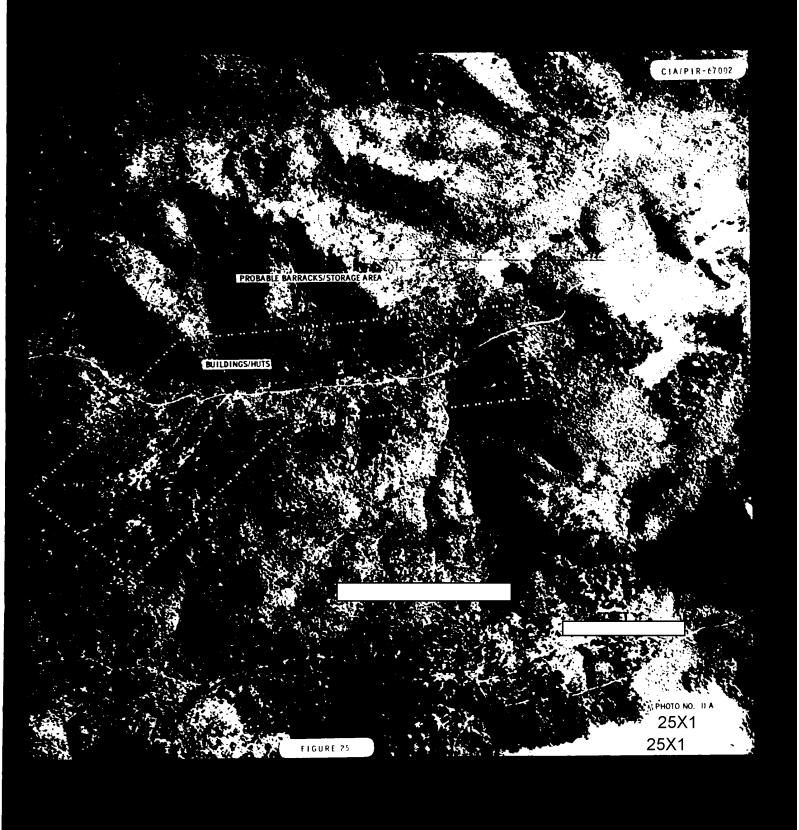
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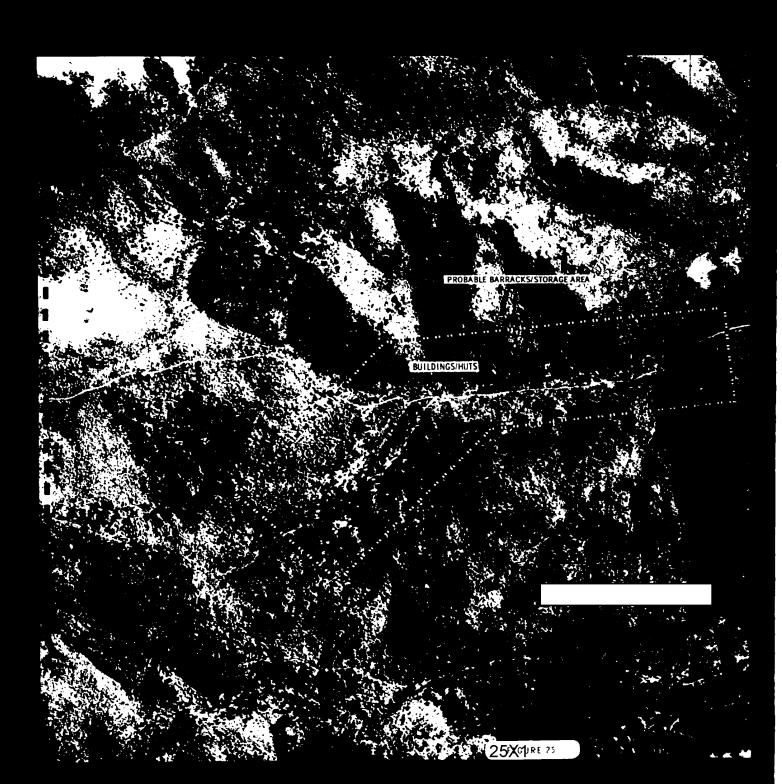
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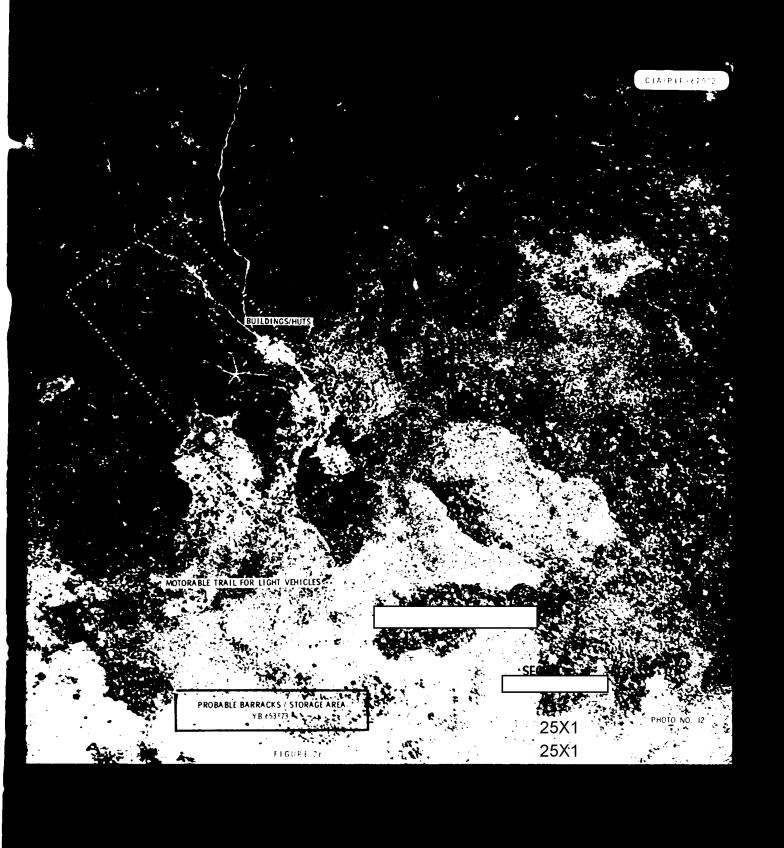
VEHICLE TRACKS

PROBABLE BARRACKS/STORAGE ARE

FIGURE 24



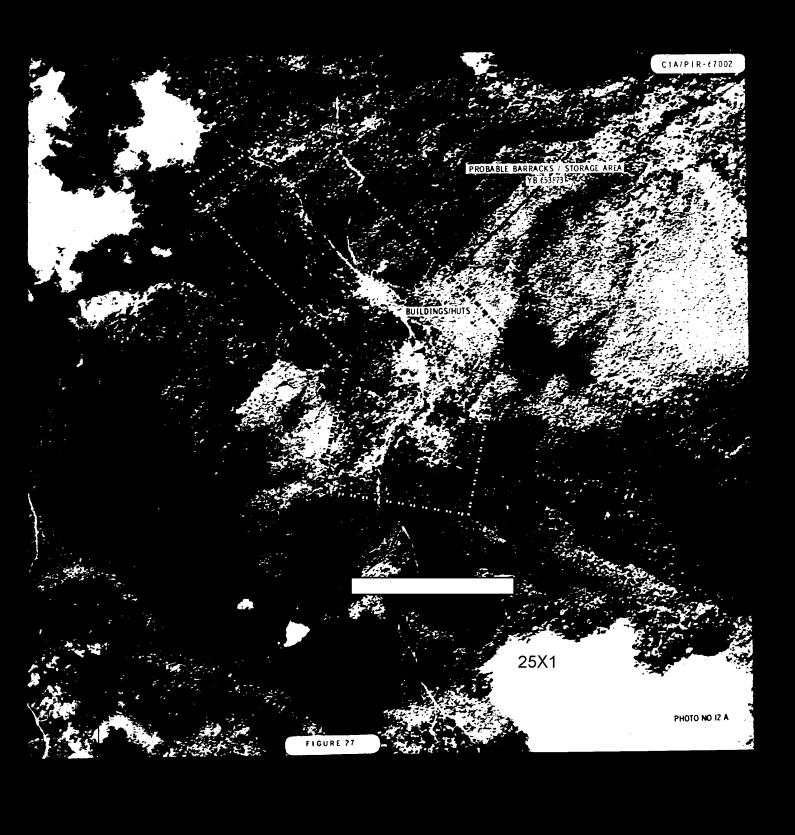


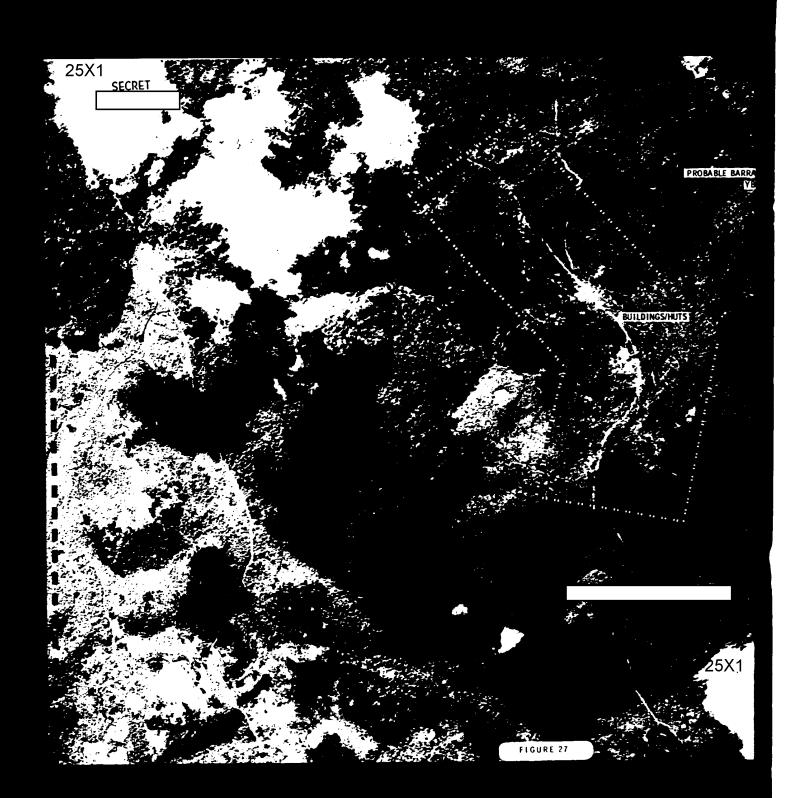


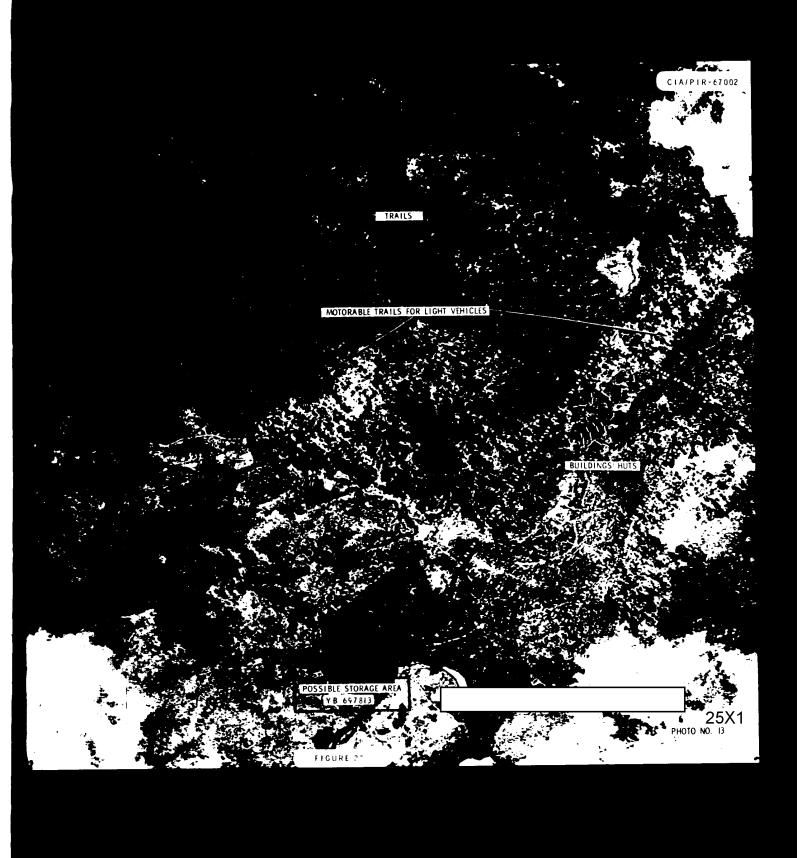
BUILDINGS/HUTS

25X1

PROBABLE BARRACKS / STORAGE ARE





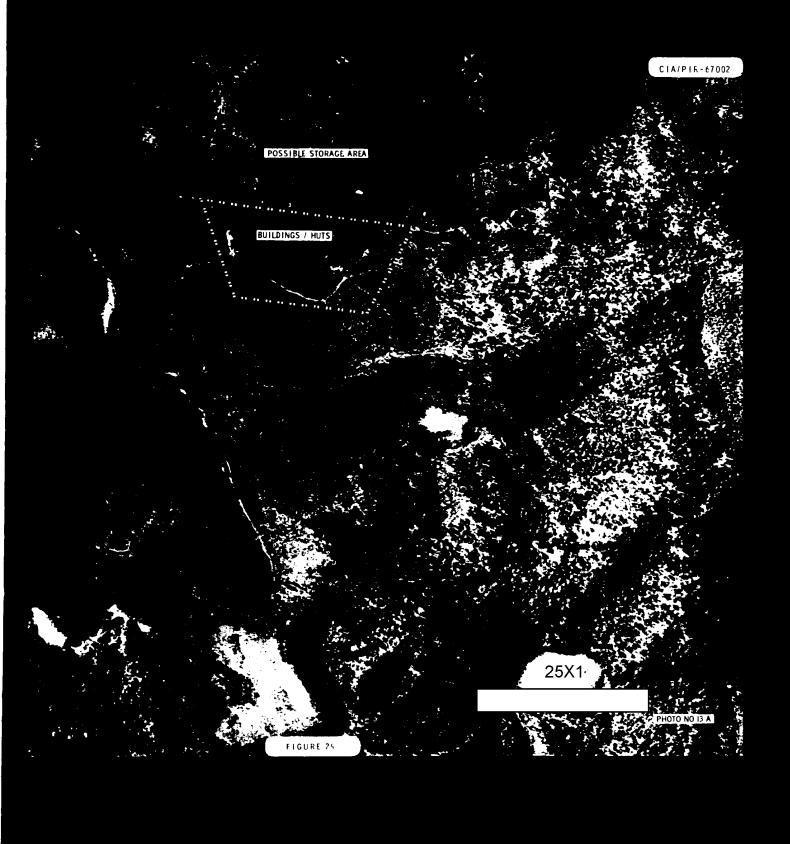


TRAILS

MOTORARIE TRAILS FOR LIGHT VEHICLES

25X1

FIGURE 2



POSSIBLE STORAGE AREA

VEHICLE TRACKS

EXTENSIVE TRACKING ACTIVITY

THATES

VILLACE SITE

BUILDINGS /HUTS

FIGURE 25X1

VEHICLE TRACKS

TOALLE

EXTENSIVE TRACKING ACTIVITY

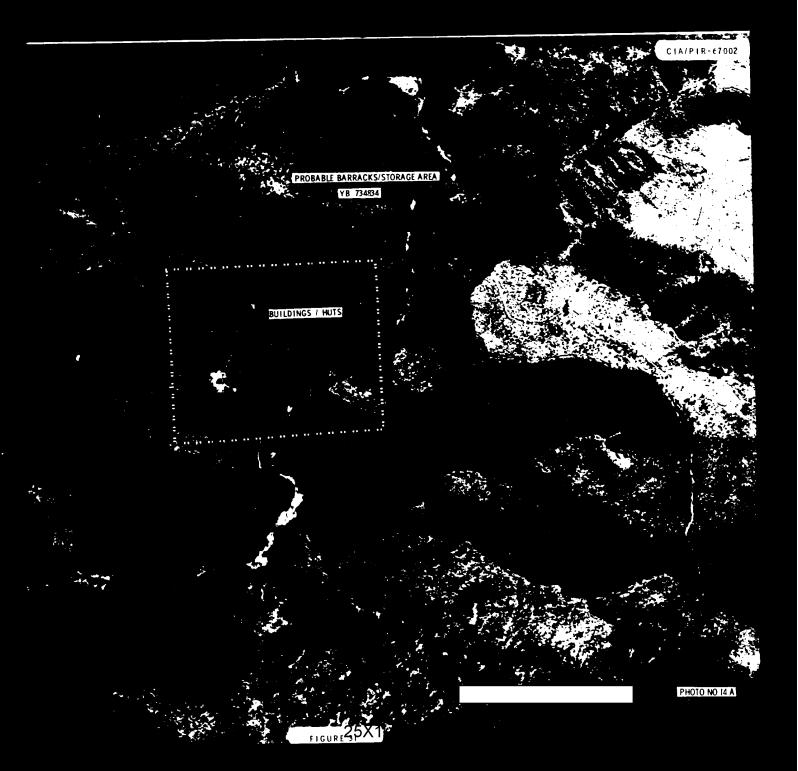
MOT

BUILDINGS HUTS

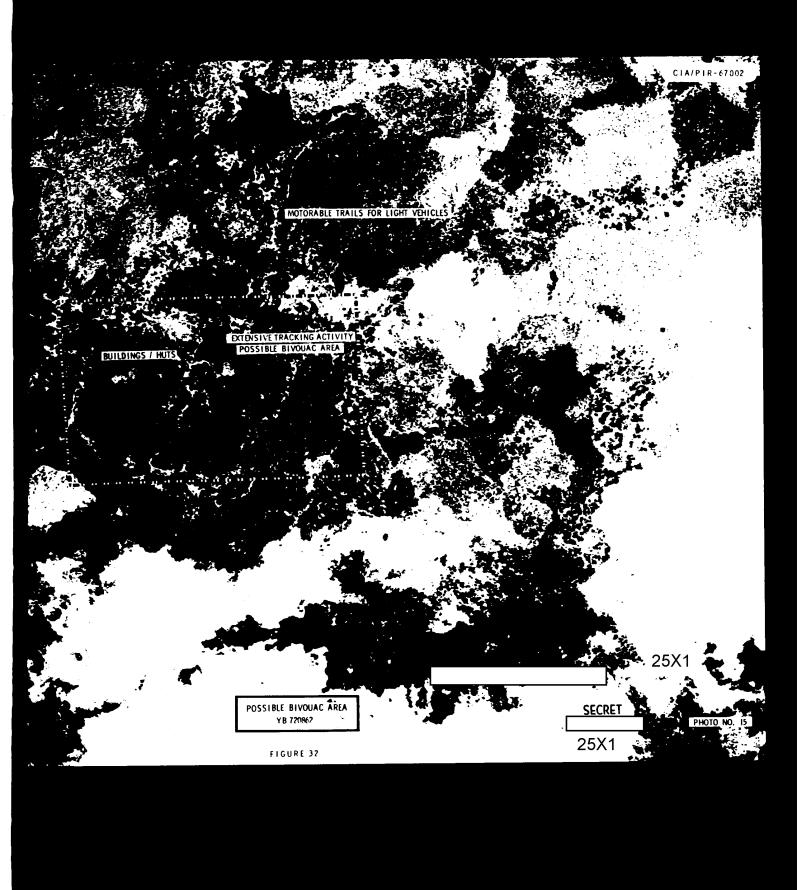
FORMER VILLAGE SITE

MOTORABLE ROAD FOR LIGHT VEHICLES

PROBABLE BARRACKS STORAGE AREA



YB 734834 BUILDINGS / HUTS





CIAIPIR-67002

FORMER VILLAGE SITE

BUILDINGS/HUT9

PROBABLE BARRACKS / STORAGE AREA
YR (94.99)

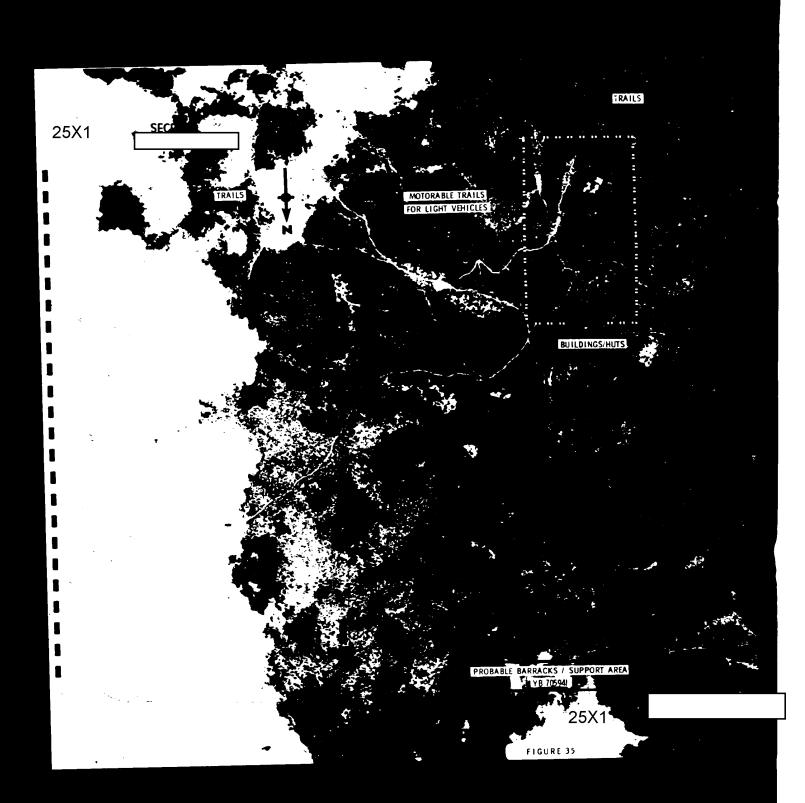
FIGUR 25X1

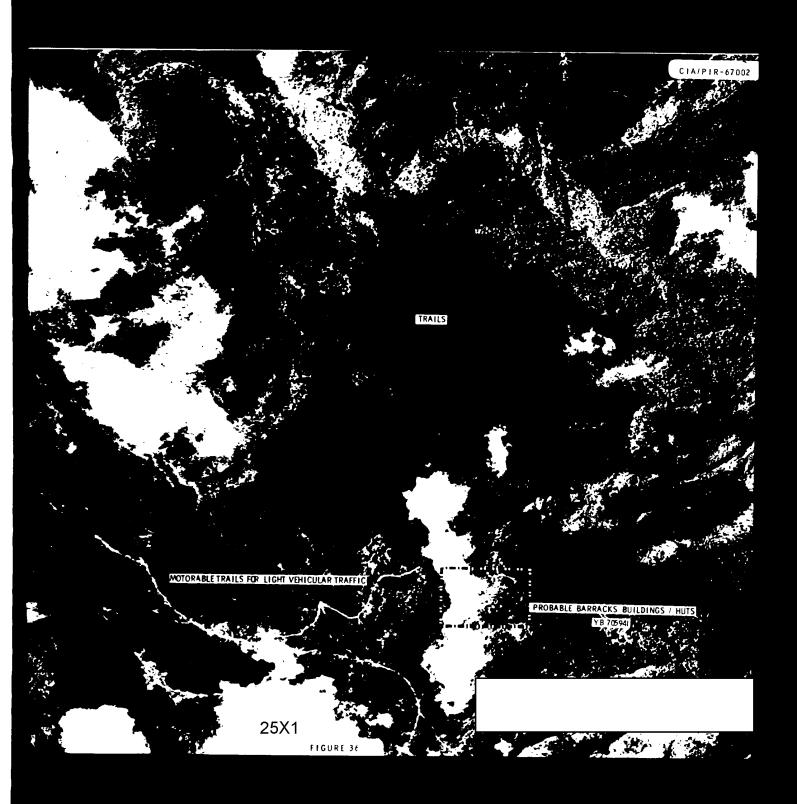
PHOTO NO. 16

FORMER VILLAGE SITE YT 53B (2 PROBABLE BARRACKS / STORAGE AFEA
YB 694995 FIGURE 33

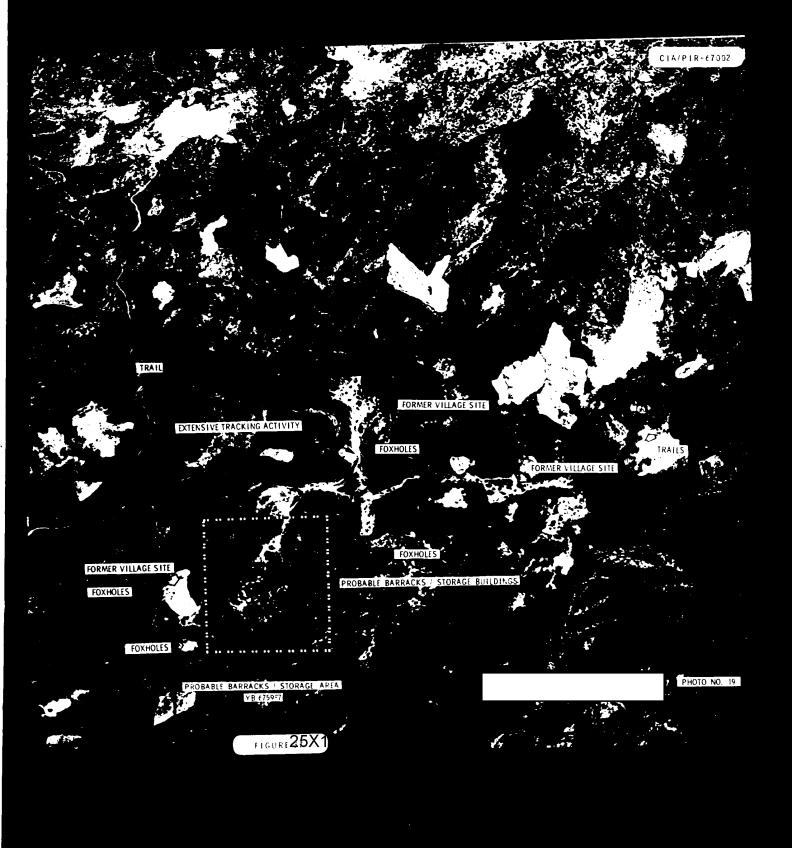
GS/HUTS 25X1







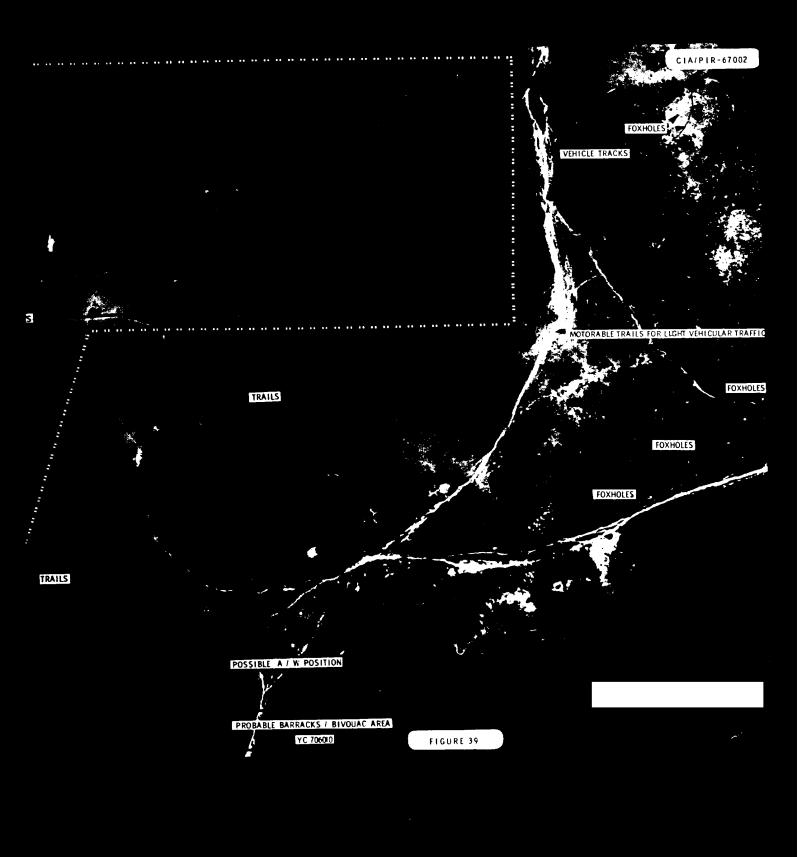




FORMER VILLAGE SITE FORMER VILLAGE SITE PROBABLE BARRACKS ! STORAGE BUILDINGS FOXHOLES ROBABLE BARRACKS ! STORAGE AREA YB ¢75997 FIGURE 37

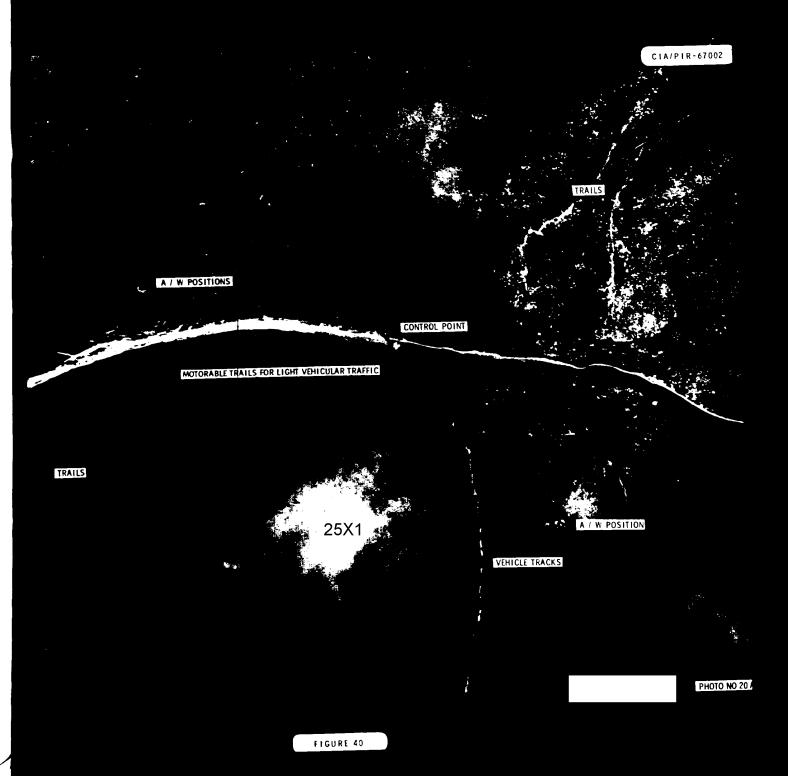






25X1 CECDET TRAILS TRAILS POSSIBLE A / W POSITION PROBABLE BARRACKS / BIVOUAC AREA

YC 706010



TRAILS

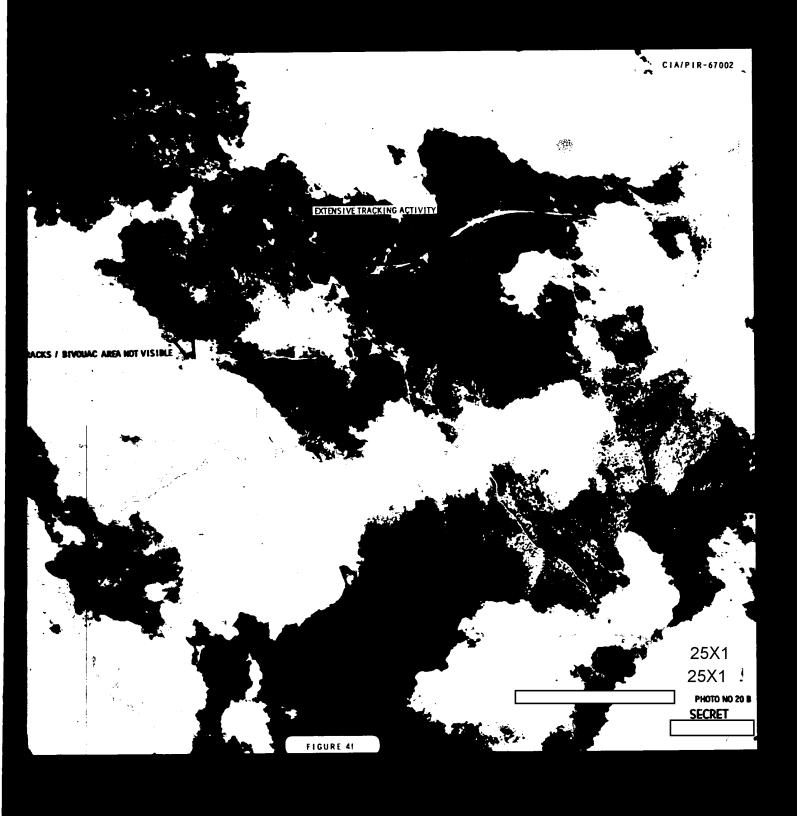
A / W POSITIONS

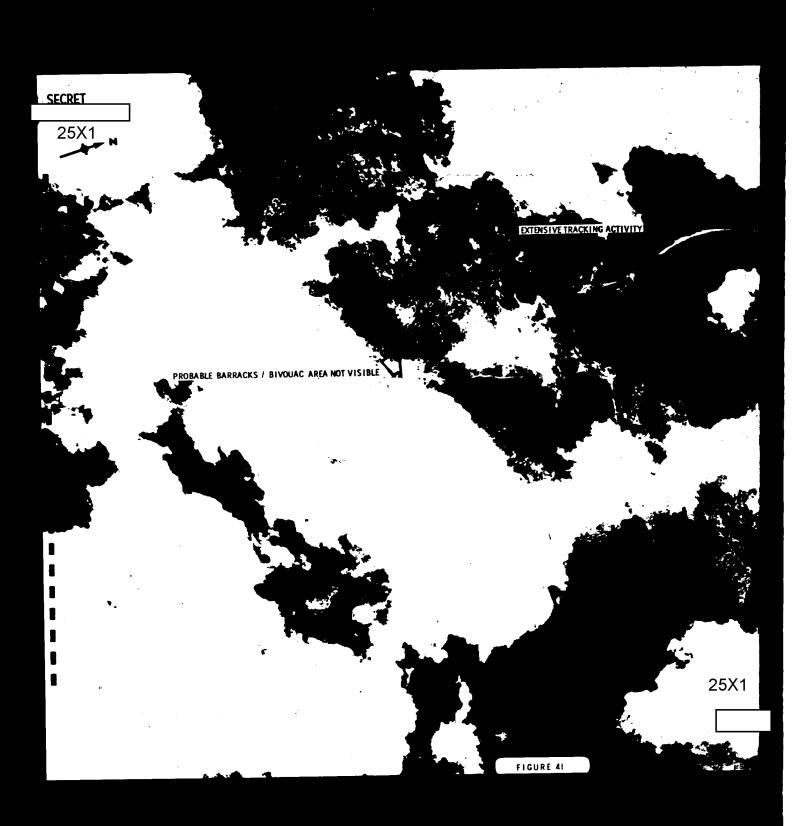
CONTROL POINT

MOTORABLE TRAILS FOR LIGHT VEHICULAR TRAFFIC

TRAILS

VEHICLE TRA





CIA/PIR-67002

MOTORABLE ROAD FOR LIGHT VEHICLES

PROBABLE BARRACKS / SUPPORT AREA

R: HIDING

BUILDINGS/HUTS

PROBABLE BARRACKS / SUPPORT AREA
VB 730%

YT 53B

PHOTO NO. 21

FIGURE 25X1

MOTORARIE ROAD FOR LIGHT VEHICLES

PROBABLE BARRACKS / SUPPORT AREA

25X1

BUILDINGS/HUTS

YT 538

PROBABLE BARRACKS / SUPPORT AREA

